

Mar 22

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1858.

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Review of the Week.

NATURALLY taking precedence of the rest of the news of the week is the overthrow of Lord PALMERSTON's Cabinet by the adverse vote on Mr. MILNER GIBSON's motion of Friday se'nnight. Not only in this country, but all over the Continent, has the downfall of the 'strong' Ministry been witnessed with astonishment—astonishment, however, not altogether reasonable. Throughout the week preceding the eventful Friday night, the ground had been sliding from under the Premier's feet. He must have been as conscious as any one that he was acting in defiance of the feeling of the country in pressing forward his Conspiracy Bill, and he must have known better than most that the feeling was precisely one that could not be ignored, but would be certain to find a strong expression in the House. He dared this expression. But it is not upon the merits or demerits of the bill that the ministerial vessel has gone to pieces. The willingness of the House to entertain some such measure as the one proposed had been evidenced by the large majority that sanctioned the bringing in of the Government bill. True, that bill, it was scarcely denied, owed its existence to the demands of the French Emperor for protection against men whom his own tyranny had driven into England for refuge from his persecution; but such is the hatred of the English mind to the idea of assassination, that there is little doubt the bill would have been carried by the House of Commons had not the demands of the French Government been accompanied by the officially promulgated threats of the French army, and by the far more deliberately offensive despatch of Count WALEWSKI, in which the whole English people were belied and insulted. It was idle for Lord PALMERSTON to split hairs upon the question of this or that meaning to be put upon Count WALEWSKI's words; the people of this country had made up their minds as to the wrong that had been done them, and every day was bringing their opinion more into the light. Before, therefore, they would consent to take any step towards rectifying even an acknowledged anomaly in their laws, with a view to affording additional security to a life in which they take deep interest, they demanded that, at least, an answer worthy of themselves should be given to the slander which had been put upon the national character. Speaking by the mouth of Mr. MILNER GIBSON, they demanded of the man to whom they had entrusted the national honour

whether he had taken reasonable measures to preserve it from being wronged, or to vindicate it in the event of its having been wronged. Lord PALMERSTON answered recklessly, fiercely—nay, brutally—that he had done neither; and he hurled taunts, personalities, and insults in the teeth of all who ventured to impugn his policy or his judgment. Such a scene has very rarely been witnessed in the House of Commons as that of Friday night last, ending in a division which, by a majority of 234 to 215, censured Lord PALMERSTON for having neglected to defend the character of his country from the aspersions cast upon it by the agent of the angry and terrified Emperor of FRANCE. On the following day Lord PALMERSTON tendered his resignation to the QUEEN, and it was accepted—he with his colleagues holding office only until his successor should be found. On Monday the resignation of the Ministry was formally announced; and the two Houses, for the convenience of Lord DERBY, who had in the meantime been 'sent for,' were adjourned to Friday.

We say that astonishment at the result of Mr. MILNER GIBSON's motion is not reasonable; if carried, it could not reasonably have been expected to produce any result short of that caused by a vote of censure. That the consequences may be extremely embarrassing, and in some respects harmful to the Government of the country, does not throw any discredit upon the supporters of the motion: Parliament had either silently to acquiesce in the course taken by Lord PALMERSTON's Government or to protest against it; it did its duty, regardless of ulterior consequences.

Lord DERBY—moved to the adventure by certain of his followers more than by his own inclination—has undertaken to form a Cabinet—that is, to reproduce the Ministry of 1852, more or less modified. In another place we enter into an examination of the qualifications of these gentlemen for carrying on the Government of the country, under conditions so widely different from those under which they entered upon their former short career. That they collectively possess the talents requisite to carry on the work of Government respectably is not too sure; that they will not command the confidence of the country is certain. Placed in power by an accidental combination, Lord DERBY accepts office almost on the understanding that he will hold it only on sufferance; and the public will be continually asking, "What next?—and next?" until he shall be relieved of his duty by the march of events.

And what next with regard to our very good, but

very much fear-incensed ally? The hastily written despatch forwarded by Lord COWLEY through the telegraph immediately upon learning the events of Friday night, shows the pains at which Lord PALMERSTON's Government had been to tranquillize the Emperor's irritation. Lord COWLEY had assured him that it was impossible for the English Government to attempt to interfere with the laws which give the right of asylum to political refugees in this country; but no document was suffered to pass upon the subject, lest, from being recorded, it should bind the French Government to a line of conduct taken up in alarm and anger; time, the English Prime Minister hoped, would have a mollifying influence upon the Imperial mind, and meanwhile—under cover of a pretended anxiety to remove an anomaly of the English law—an appearance of doing the Imperial bidding would have a decidedly soothing effect. From first to last, the feelings and temper of the people of England appear to have been utterly disregarded by Lord PALMERSTON, in his anxiety to calm the troubled spirit of the frightened NAPOLEON.

How frightened our faithful ally still is may be judged of by the number of arrests made within the last few days, of persons charged with the grievous offence of having used indiscreet language with regard to him and to his régime. One of these is a boy of about seventeen years of age, who pleaded his youth in extenuation of his offence. A source of anxiety, twenty thousand times greater, we take to be the opposition which has been given in the Chamber of the Corps Législatif to the new *Loi des Expectants*, as it will henceforth be called. This law—so strangely putting out of countenance the oft-repeated assertion of the popularity of the present régime—bringing back to France a second reign of terror,—has been carried by a majority of some 200 in a House that contains, with the exception of four members, none but Government nominees; but it was opposed by a minority of 94, under the leadership of M. EMILE OLLIVIER, and there were some dozen or fifteen abstentions. In that little band are the hopes of French liberty, even yet further menaced. The *Mou-teur* of Friday contains a decree of the Sénatus Consultum, approved by the Emperor, that no candidate for the Corps Législatif shall come forward without having, at least eight days before the time of election, formally declared that 'he swears obedience to the Constitution and fidelity to the Emperor. Let M. EMILE OLLIVIER and his three-and-twenty brave followers look well to it.

In the meantime, the men whose crime gives the pretext for all that is now done by NAPOLEON are upon their trial. An enormous *acte d'accusation* sets forth, after the French mode of conducting criminal prosecutions, their offences, and traces the course of their antecedents. Even in this initial proceeding we discover the prevailing animus of French officials with regard to England. Almost all the accused are described as 'usually' resident in England, the facts established by the *acte* itself showing how utterly unwarrantable the statement is. ORSINI has boldly accepted the full responsibility of the crime of which he is accused. He declares that he wished to have destroyed the Emperor; that he never confided his intention to Mr. ALLSON. M. BERNARD, he affirms, took the bombs to Brussels, but knew nothing of the purpose for which they were intended. He will say nothing about his fellow-prisoners; but expresses himself ready to die. He will not die friendless, at all events, for M. MAZZINI has come forward to defend him and his memory. ORSINI, he says, was chosen by him, and appointed by the Roman *Triumvirate*, in 1849, to go and repress the political murders that were so numerous at that time in Ancona; and he quotes from ORSINI's proclamation these striking words:—"Republic means humanity, not cruelty; liberty, not tyranny; order, not anarchy; he who thinks otherwise murders the Republic." This is a very noble act upon the part of MAZZINI. He had been accused of complicity with ORSINI, no doubt falsely: it has even transpired that ORSINI had spoken disrespectfully of the Italian leader. Neither that report, nor the fear of giving some colour to the false accusation against himself, deters MAZZINI from doing justice to a compatriot and vindicating the truth. It is an act of singleness of mind which will tend to maintain the moral respect that MAZZINI has already won with the English people.

Certainly, at this moment, our relations with the Continent are not all of the most comfortable sort. The Cagliari affair may even yet become something more serious than the slow torture of two British subjects under the warranty of Neapolitan law. The steps lately taken by the Sardinian Government appear likely to put matters upon an entirely new footing; for according to the view of Count CAVOUR, the seizure of the Cagliari has been illegal, as having been effected upon the high seas and not in Neapolitan waters. Should it turn out that this view is correct, it will of course follow that the seizure and long detention of the crew has been also unjustifiable. Then will come demands for redress—urged, possibly, in terms not too conciliatory—and should the King not show himself ready to meet those demands, it will be far from improbable that 'popular clamour' will insist upon means being taken to force him to make amends. With regard to the Neapolitan Government the case stands thus: on a statement of what are assumed to be facts, the illegality of the seizure is maintained, and the release of the vessel with her crew is demanded. "The capture on the high seas of a ship belonging to a friendly power being illegal," says Count CAVOUR, in his despatch to the Sardinian Minister to the Court of Naples, "all the consequences which flow from that act are invalid. The proceedings, therefore, already taken at Salerno against the accused above referred to, cannot be followed up except contumaciously, if the Neapolitan judges think proper so to proceed."

The Calcutta mail, just arrived, brings no startling news from India, but what news we have enables us to form some notion of the state of things during the fortnight for which it accounts. Sir COLIN CAMPBELL still defers his entry upon the Oude campaign—during which the great blow is to be struck that must reach the very heart of the rebels. Lucknow is the centre towards which they are swarming in thousands, and it is there they have determined to make their last stand, believing that they are doomed to destruction, but bent upon

dragging down with them the avengers of their crime. In India some impatience is expressed at the delay of the Commander-in-Chief to attack this stronghold; but his views would appear to be distinct as to the advantage of first clearing Rohilcund and securing our communications. Moreover, he looks upon the concentration of the enemy's forces in Lucknow as a positive advantage, since it will be easier to destroy them in a mass than in detail.

Complete details of the capture of Canton are now given us, and extraordinary they are in every respect, as unlike those of the capture of any other city by assault as can be conceived. The seizure of the redoubtable Commissioner YEH is as curious and funny as a scene in a Christmas extravaganza. The stolidity of the opposition offered by the soldiery is burlesque; and a droll termination is exhibited by the Cantonese assisting their conquerors to carry off the contents of their own Treasury. After his capture, YEH sat swelling with real ferocity and assumed indignation, while he trembled with fear—a grand exhibition of the Chinese, unconquerable, not through his bravery or his devotion, but through his exhaustless stupidity.

Public meetings have been held at many of the large manufacturing towns on the subject of the Conspiracy Bill, at each of which the feeling was one of extreme opposition. The more important of these were held at Manchester, Bury, Bolton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Sheffield. The principal speaker at the meeting in the latter town, on Monday night, was Mr. Fisher, who moved a resolution to the effect that the bill introduced by Lord PALMERSTON was wholly uncalled for, and asking the meeting to express their thanks to the two members of the borough, Mr. J. A. ROEBUCK and Mr. G. HADFIELD, for their opposition to the measure. The applause with which Mr. FISHER's speech was received showed that he spoke the mind of the meeting in utterly condemning the course pursued by Lord PALMERSTON, and in applauding the vote of censure which had removed him from office.

The committee appointed to inquire into the alleged breach of privilege by Mr. BUTT, M.P., has been sitting all the week, and at present the evidence appears to tell less against Mr. BUTT than against the petitioner COFFEY. The statement made in the petition is that Mr. BUTT had agreed for a sum of money to assist the Rajah ALI MOORAD KHAN to recover from the East India Company certain lands of which he had been dispossessed by the Company. The question will turn upon the fact of whether the assistance promised by Mr. BUTT was purely professional, or was understood to imply his using his influence in behalf of his client in the House of Commons. It would not be right to form any opinion on the point as the case stands at present; but the weight of the petitioner's evidence is evidently falling off day by day.

Twelve weary days have been already spent in sifting the mass of corruption under which the poor *bonâ fide* shareholders of the Royal British Bank were crushed by hundreds. Upon CAMERON the whole of the ignominy is attempted to be thrown; the rest were but 'ciphers—mere children in his hands.' What if the jury should adopt that notion?

A trial with fresher interest about it is that of the Irish priest, the Reverend PETER CONWAY, for intimidation and violence at the last Mayo election. The trial came on on Tuesday se'nnight, and lasted till Saturday, when it was found that there was no possibility of the jury bringing in a verdict, and they were, of course, dismissed. Now this is disgraceful to the Catholics, who by such open exhibitions of bigotry turn to bitterness the friendly spirit with which they, particularly of late, have been treated by their Protestant brethren. Anything, moreover, that tends to weaken the operation of the law is an evil, from the injurious consequences of which they are as liable to be sufferers as Protestants. The other priest, the Reverend LUKE RYAN, is not to be tried until next session, in consequence of the absence of an important witness.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

Lord PALMERSTON and his colleagues having resigned office in consequence of the vote of Friday week, Lord Derby was summoned by the Queen, in accordance with the advice of the retiring Premier, and entrusted with the formation of a new Ministry. The week has been a busy one with him and his adherents; but for the present the Earl has succeeded in his task, and has formed his Government as follows:—

THE CABINET.

First Lord of the Treasury...	The Earl of DERBY.
Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of the House of Commons ...	Rt. Hon. B. DISRAELI.
Lord Chancellor ...	Sir F. THESIGER.
Lord President ...	Marquis of SALISBURY.
Lord Privy Seal ...	Earl of HARDWICKE.
Secretary for Foreign Affairs ...	Earl of MALMESBURY.
Home Department ...	Mr. SPENCER WALPOLE.
Colonial ...	Lord STANLEY.
War ...	General PERL.
India Board ...	Earl of ELLENBOROUGH.
Board of Trade ...	Rt. Hon. J. HENLEY.
Board of Works ...	Lord JOHN MANNINGHAM.
Admiralty...	Sir JOHN PAKINGTON.

NOT IN THE CABINET.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster ...	The Duke of MONTGOMERY.
Postmaster-General ...	Lord COLCHESTER.
Secretaries of the Treasury ...	Sir W. JOLLIFFE, Bart. Mr. G. A. HAMILTON.
Secretary of the Admiralty ...	Right Hon. H. CORRY.
Vice President of the Board of Trade...	Earl of DONOUGHMORE.
Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs ...	Mr. S. FITZGERALD.
Under Secretary for the Home Department ...	Mr. HARDY.
Under Secretary for the Colonies...	Earl of CAERNARVON.
Under Secretary for War...	Lord HARDINGE.
President of the Poor-law Board ...	Mr. SOTHERON ESTCOTE.
Vice-President of the Board of Education ...	Mr. ADDERLEY.
Judge Advocate ...	Mr. EDWARD EGERTON.
Attorney General ...	Sir F. KELLY.
Solicitor General ...	Mr. CATRINS.
Lord Advocate ...	Mr. INGLIS.
Mistress of the Robes ...	Duchess of MANCHESTER.
Lord Steward ...	Marquis of EXETER.
Lord Chamberlain ...	Lord DELAWARE.
Master of the Horse ...	Duke of BRAUFORT.
Master of the Buckhounds...	Earl of SANDWICH.
Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms ...	Earl TALBOT.

IRELAND.

Lord-Lieutenant ...	Earl of EGLINTON.
Secretary ...	Lord NAAS.

The Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace yesterday afternoon, previous to which the retiring Ministers had audiences of her Majesty, to deliver up their seals of office. An audience was then given to Lord Derby and the other members of the new Cabinet, who severally kissed hands on receiving their seals of office. At the Privy Council which ensued, the new Lord Chancellor (Sir Frederick Thesiger), Lord Stanley, and General Peel, were sworn in, and, by command of her Majesty, took their seats at the board.

Some collateral statements and conjectures are thus given by a daily contemporary:—

"The name of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton will not be found on the list which we publish this day; but this omission does not arise from any division between him and the leaders of the party which has now stumbled into power. The administration of the Colonial Department was offered to Sir Bulwer Lytton. At the present moment, however, he does not think it advisable to seek re-election at the hands of his constituency."

"It is said that Sir Frederick Thesiger's title will be Lord Chelmsford. Mr. Justice Blackburne has declined the Irish Lord Chancellorship, and Chief Justice Lecky, or Mr. Napier, is named for that office. If the Chief Justice accepts, Mr. Napier succeeds him as the head of the Queen's Bench. Lord Colville will, it is said, be a Lord in Waiting. Mr. C. Bailey and Mr. Penney are both talked of for the Scotch Solicitor-Generalship."

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, February 22nd.

THE RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

Is the House of Lords, Earl GRANVILLE announced the resignation of the Ministry in consequence of the adverse vote of the Lower House on the previous Friday evening. He understood that Lord Derby (who was not present) had been sent for by the Queen to form a Ministry; and he believed that noble Lord was desirous, as a matter of convenience, that the House should adjourn until the ensuing Friday, although it would meet in the meanwhile for judicial business.—The Earl of MALMESBURY stated that Lord Derby was then engaged in the task entrusted to him; and, after some complimentary remarks with respect to the high sense of honour entertained by the retiring Ministers, said, on behalf of Lord Derby, that the brief recess indicated would meet his views.

THE LAW WITH RESPECT TO ALIENS.

In answer to a question from Lord LYNCHURST, Lord CAMPBELL repeated his opinion as to the liability of aliens to the penalties of the law of England for crimes committed within the realm, which by a statement attributed to the Attorney-General in the House of Commons had been misrepresented. By that statement it appeared as if he (Lord Campbell) had declared that a foreigner might in this country do with impunity what would be a crime in a native. This, however, is not the law of the land, and it is important it should be known it is not the law. Within the realm, the law makes no distinction between the natural-born subject and the alien. While within the realm, the alien is within allegiance to the Crown, and for any crime can be tried by the same procedure as a subject. An alien conspiring to do anything *malum in se*, in this country, can be tried for the crime. He approved the bill of the Government, and should support it.—The Lord CHANCELLOR thought it very probable that the Attorney-General had been misrepresented.—Lords LYNCHURST, BROUGHTON, WENSLYDALE, and St. LEONARDS concurred in the views of Lord Campbell.

The HAVELOCK ANNUITY BILL was read a third time, and passed.

Their Lordships then adjourned at a quarter to six till Friday.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. ROEBUCK, agreeably to notice, presented a petition complaining of a breach of privilege by a member of the House (Mr. Isaac Butt), in having entered (as alleged) into a corrupt agreement with Ali Moored Khan, under which a sum of money had been paid by the Khan to Mr. Butt; and he moved that the petition be printed.—Mr. BUTT protested against the course taken by Mr. Roebuck, and demanded of the Justice of the House an immediate investigation of the charge by a public inquiry at the bar, or, if the House objected to that course, by a select committee to be forthwith appointed for that object. He then withdrew.—Mr. ROEBUCK having abrogated his motion for printing the petition, it was agreed, after a long and desultory discussion respecting the proper course of proceeding, that a select committee should be appointed forthwith. The members were accordingly nominated, and the petition was ordered to be referred to the committee.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

Lord PALMERSTON, who was received with cheers by his supporters, then rose and said:—"I wish, Sir, to make a short statement to the House with respect to the course which her Majesty's Government have thought it their duty to pursue in consequence of the vote to which this House came on Friday night. I think it can scarcely be necessary for me to say that that vote led her Majesty's Government to feel that there was only one course which they could pursue with a due regard to their own honour and with a due respect to this House. (Hear, hear.) We therefore on Saturday humbly tendered to her Majesty's resignation of our offices, which her Majesty was graciously pleased to accept, and consequently we now hold our offices only for the purpose of carrying on the business of the country until our successors are appointed. Under these circumstances, I am sure the House would feel that it would be inconvenient that we should continue to meet, and therefore, as is usual on such occasions, I venture to propose that this House should adjourn for a few days. I have ascertained by private communication from a noble lord, who, I believe I may venture to say, is at present engaged in constructing a Government, that it will be convenient that the adjournment should be until next Friday. I therefore propose that the House at its rising should adjourn till that day." (Hear, hear.)

The motion was agreed to, and it was further resolved that all committees should have leave to sit, notwithstanding the adjournment of the House.

EXPULSION OF A PRIEST FROM MALTA.

Mr. LABOUCHERE, in reply to a question from Mr. BOWEN, stated that the Governor of Malta, as well as the Governor of Gibraltar, had summary power lodged in his hands of sending any foreigners out of the colony, upon his own responsibility, whenever he might think it desirable. The Governor of Malta had thought it proper to exercise this right in the person of an Italian

priest, who had been resident some time in the island, and made himself active in fomenting disturbances, particularly against the Roman Catholics of Malta. Under these circumstances, the priest having left the island, the Governor forbade his return.

THE EAST INDIA LOAN BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on this bill, Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY pressed for some explanation respecting the condition of the Indian revenue, which could not stand additional charges or be materially increased; how the interest of the loan was to be met; and whether the English Exchequer was secured against being called upon to pay any part of the debt.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said he would give the required explanation in committee.—After some remarks by Mr. AYTON and Mr. WALPOLE (who thought that, owing to the position of the Government, members were placed in an awkward position with respect to the bill), the House went into committee; when the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said, the bill merely enabled the East India Company to raise money, either by debentures or by bonds; that it involved no new principle; and that it was doubtful whether the Company now needed any Parliamentary authority for this purpose. The deficit of the Indian Exchequer, at the end of the financial year 1858-9, is estimated at 7,500,000*l.*, and the Company have exhausted their powers of borrowing in the Indian money-market. From the gross amount of the Indian revenue, the amount of the Indian and home debt, and the charge upon the revenue, it might be inferred that there is no reason to doubt that, when the revolt is quelled, and the country has been restored to its ordinary state, the Indian Government will be able to defray all the expenses of its own administration. There is nothing in the measure to bring any prospective charge upon the British Exchequer.—The clauses of the bill were agreed to after much discussion (during which Mr. THOMAS BARKIN, Mr. WILLIAMS, and Mr. AYTON objected to the measure financially), and the amount of the loan was limited to 8,000,000*l.* The House adjourned at half-past eight o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. BUTT.—The select committee appointed to investigate the allegations of the petition of Edward Rees Coffey, charging Mr. Isaac Butt, M.P., with a breach of the privileges of the House of Commons, in agreeing with Amer Ali Moored Khan, to prosecute, in his place in Parliament, the claims of his Highness against the East India Company, met on Tuesday for the first time. The following members were present:—Sir James Graham (chairman), Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Serjeant Kinglake, Sir William Codrington, Mr. Bouvier, Mr. W. Patten, Mr. Bright, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Serjeant Deasy. The case on behalf of the petitioner was stated by Mr. Roebuck, who said he had no ill feeling whatever towards Mr. Butt, and that he only acted on public grounds. Ali Moored Khan is a Prince of Scinde, who was endowed with certain property by Sir Charles James Napier on account of assistance rendered to the English. The property has since been confiscated, and the Ameer came to England to prosecute his claim. The petitioner is an Irishman who has been in the service of the East India Company, but who gave up the office of postmaster-general in India to accompany the Ameer to England, and help him in his endeavours to recover his property. Mr. Coffey had been in communication with Mr. Butt, who had received from the Ameer the sums of 300*l.* and 2000*l.*, in consideration of his good offices. The examination of Mr. Coffey occupied the whole day; and, from questions put by Mr. Serjeant Deasy, it appeared that the petitioner is no longer in the service of the Ameer, having been dismissed by Mr. Butt at Constantinople for charging his Highness with disloyalty to the Government; that a large balance of money was due to him from the Ameer, and that he had threatened to prosecute him. "The counsel retained by the Ameer, in addition to Mr. Butt and his brother, were Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Mr. Kearslake, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Cairns. A consultation took place at the chamber of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, at which Mr. Butt was present. A petition to the Queen was decided upon at a consultation, but he was not sure whether Mr. Butt was present. Mr. Butt received 25*l.* for attending a consultation. Mr. Butt was not offered a fee for attending a consultation in 1856." The committee adjourned to the following day, when further evidence was received and documents were read, from which it appeared that, since the breaking out of the mutiny, the Ameer desired to return to India, but that Mr. Coffey delayed him at Trieste, under the influence of a fear that he might join the insurgents. On Thursday, a good deal of evidence of a complicated kind was received, the tendency of which was to show that Mr. Coffey and Mr. Butt had quarrelled; that the latter had called the former a blackguard; and that the Ameer was also very angry with Mr. Coffey, whom he designated "the son of Satan."

EAST INDIA (TRANSPORT OF TROOPS) COMMITTEE.—This committee continues its sittings. At the meeting on Tuesday, Mr. Gumsdam, senior member of the Council at Bombay, and Captain Harris, testified to the practicability of transmitting troops to India through Egypt and by the Red Sea. There were no obstacles which

could not be easily overcome. "I regard Suez," said Captain Harris, "as the sanatorium of the world. Troops would suffer nothing from being kept there a few days." The committee sat again yesterday, when further evidence was received, of a similar nature.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

Our armies still continue to make rapid progress in the subjugation of the rebels and the restoration of order. Sir Colin Campbell moved on the 14th of January with the head-quarters of his army to Kanow, a position occupied up to that time by Walpole's brigade, which has since been moved forward to the Ganges, for the purpose of constructing a bridge at a point opposite the confluence of that river with Rungur. Having effected this service, the Brigadier crossed the Ganges into Rohilcund. The brigade is to march to Bareilly, for the purpose of clearing that city of the rebels under Khan Bahadur Khan. Sir Colin himself was waiting, at the last dates, for a siege train from Agra, on the arrival of which he proposed to move with his whole force, in conjunction with that of Jung Bahadur, on Oude.

The rebels who passed from Rohilcund into the Moozuffernugger district on the 30th of January have been beaten by Captain Boisrager, and driven back across the river. The Calpee rebels are still in force, and are said to be under the leadership of Nana Sahib, who is threatening us in the direction of Nagotee. Captain Montgomery, the Superintendent of Police at Ahmednugger, has encountered a gang of Bheels in the district of Chanelore, on the road to Mallagumur. The result is not stated in the telegram from Alexandria; but from another source it appears that we sustained a defeat. The captain, three other officers, and fifty men, were wounded.

A report to Sir Colin Campbell, from Brigadier Stuart, commanding the Malwa Field Force (now 1st Brigade Nerbudda Field Force), describing his successful operations against the insurgents assembled near Mundisore, during four days, from the 21st to the 24th of last November, has been published. The general results are already known.

Further items of news are thus communicated in various telegrams:—

"The Coolies (?) have risen in great number. The Commissioner, with a party of Sikhs, has been obliged to retreat before them. Reinforcements have been sent from Midnapore. There is a report that the great Oude Zemindars have offered to surrender on condition of immunity. The Rajah of Balabghur has been hanged at Delhi. The trial of the Nawab of Gurecknaggar has commenced; that of the King is still postponed. The Military Governor of Delhi gave over the charge of the city to the civil authorities on the 10th of January. On the 18th, a mutiny took place among the gunners of the Nagpore Artillery at Sacepore. The Infantry behaved well, and arrested the mutineers. Captain Osborne, with the Rewah troops, has taken the town and fort of Meghir. Sir Hugh Rose was to move from Sehor on Saugor about the 15th. The Legislative Council has extended to Bombay an act which justifies the detention of the prisoners sought to be released by *Adonai corpus*."

THE KING OF DELHI.

Some interesting particulars with respect to the mode of life of the King of Delhi since his capture are contained in a letter written by the wife of Major (then Captain) Hodson:—

"There is a report, which has been mischievously set about, and may have mischievous consequences—viz., that the King has the whole of his retinue, and has returned to his own apartments in the Palace. This is perfectly untrue. I went with Mr. Saunders, the Civil Commissioner, and his wife, to see the unfortunate and guilty wretch. We mounted a flight of stone steps, at the bottom and top of which was a European sentry. A small low door opened into a room, half of which was partitioned off with a grass matting called *chitras*, behind which was a woman cooking some atrocious compound, if I might judge from the smell. In the other half was a native bedstead—i.e., a frame of bamboo on four legs, with grass rope strung across it; on this was lying and smoking a hookah an old man with a long white beard. No other article of furniture whatever was in the room; and I am almost ashamed to say that a feeling of pity mingled with my disgust at seeing a man, recently lord of an imperial city almost unparalleled for richness and magnificence, confined in a low, close, dirty room, which the lowest slave of his household would scarcely have occupied, in the very palace where he had reigned supreme, with power of life and death, untrammelled by any law, within the precincts of a royal residence as large as a considerable sized town; streets, galleries, towers, mosques, forts, and gardens, a private and a public hall of justice, and innumerable courts, passages, and staircases."

SPECIAL LETTERS FROM INDIA.

(From a Military Correspondent.)

Nagpore, December 27, 1857.

THE King of Delhi, the supreme ideal of legitimate sovereignty among both Hindoos and Mahomedans, the popular *de jure* Emperor of India, has been struck down in an open and formidable conflict with the *de facto* rulers of the country. He has leagued himself with mutinous traitors, and whether that league and that conflict were planned, or accidental, or forced upon him by the rebels, they were not provoked by any actual breach of faith on our part towards the Delhi family. The house of Timour, even if not literally annihilated, has for ever lost that calm and lofty position of acknowledged legitimacy, whose power alone, and not its right or its dignity, is in abeyance. No member of the family who survives, after having been dragged through the bloody mire of Delhi, can be an object for the pride, respect, or hope of any section of the Indian population. The political importance of this change, produced without any aggression or breach of faith on our part, must be very great in such a country and amid such a people as those of India, and if duly appropriated and improved by us, may be the golden opportunity of our empire.

The wonderful rise of the territorial power and influence of the East India Company is a just source of national pride. Its progress in India was natural, defensive, and founded on no fixed design or treacherous combination; and perhaps its early and unwilling conquests could have been effected so justly and so prudently by no other machinery and by no other motives than those of a trading company, more anxious for solid profits than for glory. But the abolition of its commercial privileges, and at last of its commercial functions, virtually extinguished its independent existence as a power in the State. The Company has become a mere name. The authority and specific duties of the Court of Directors have been gradually so curtailed and hampered by the Board of Control, that it has sunk into a very cumbersome and not much respected Board for consultation and registry, whose members are substantially remunerated by patronage. The patronage so created, so fostered, and so justified, has grown, as I have endeavoured to show, into the greatest burden and scourge of India, and the greatest danger and weakness to its rulers. The East India Company is now a mere obstruction, a veil between the Sovereign and her Indian subjects, between the people of Great Britain and that of India. Its decay as a ruling power followed its decay as a trading company; its part had then been played out, its possessions had swelled into an empire, its vast affairs and interests required imperial guidance, the control not of a single Minister, carried on almost in secret, but of all the balanced forces and all the healthy publicity of our free constitution.

In India, the mystery which formerly enveloped the name of the Company has quite faded away, and it is now very generally regarded as a body of farmers or contractors, standing between the nations of India and the Queen of England, and it is credited with the usual attributes of farmers and contractors. This impression, although essentially false, is in its terms so near the truth, and it is so difficult to define the exact nature and the actual cause of the continued anomalous relations of the Crown and the Company, that only the best educated and best informed natives can ever be brought to a clear and correct view of the case. And even then they are universally of opinion that this apparent contract is really injurious to the interests of both countries, and to the honour of England. The time has obviously come for this fiction to disappear, and for true imperial relations to be established and avowed.

There still remains one question proposed for our consideration in this letter, which I think may be answered in a very few words. What effect, we asked, has been produced on the public opinion of India? When all opposition has ceased, when every trace of the rebellion has disappeared, will the popular belief in our invincible power have been strengthened or diminished? The question is not an agreeable one to face; but it would be the blindest and most short-sighted policy for the present rulers of India to try to flatter themselves or the people of England into a state of self-satisfied security by a hasty and superficial reply. We may at least be certain that we have lost nothing in reputation; the numerous successful combats of our troops against tremendous odds have taught the natives that the old stories of the prowess and determination of the Feringhees were no exaggerations. The strongest and best disciplined assemblages of the rebels, such as those who opposed Havelock's first advance towards Lucknow, and the Gwalior mutineers near Cawnpore, have had their guns taken from them by much smaller numbers of Europeans, with those daring bayonet charges which convince a benten enemy of their inability and inferiority more than any other description of defeat. It will be long before that conviction wears off. A long familiarity with the appearance of British soldiers in our peaceful cantonments had perhaps begun to breed contempt; but there will be new and fresh accounts sent abroad now of his own though buoyant courage, his physical strength, and his ever cheerful energy and devotion. And when the full and complete reinforcements from England begin to flow through the straits, the crushing destruction and

punishment of all resistance will be so rapid and so exemplary, and the demonstration of force, both during the advance and the subsequent triumphant disposal of the troops in their quarters, will be so striking, that a much higher estimate of British resources in men and military power in general will be formed than perhaps ever existed before in the East.

But on the other hand, it must be remembered that a great part of our prestige depended on the popular belief in the indissoluble cohesion of our establishments; our rules were so elaborately definite and distinct, our payments so regular and punctual; there was so little scope under our administration for the efforts of ambitious intriguers who might attain to high office with a view to the subversion of our power; all went on so calmly, obediently, and noiselessly, without any appearance of passion or caprice, forming such a contrast when compared with the procrastination, irregularity, and arbitrary commands, frequently disobeyed, observable in so many of the native states; and the main springs of our power were worked at such a distance, and by such unattainable personages, that all despaired of seeing any great convulsion or disturbance in our provinces or among our own servants. But now they—and here I allude chiefly to our doubtful friends or well-known enemies in the native States of India—have seen at once the lowest and most liberally paid of our servants, our own disciplined troops, spontaneously throw off their allegiance and commence a war of extermination against us. This is a lesson the full significance of which they cannot have failed to learn, and which they will never forget.

The rebels, the disaffected, and the ambitious have also learned two other lessons; they have learned that two maxims, very commonly, indeed universally, current in India, are in a great measure true. First, that the enormous numbers of the warlike inhabitants constitute a vast and overwhelming power, which, were they but unanimous and true to themselves, not even all our military science and resources, and all the bravery of our European troops, could subdue. The second is, that England is far away, and that we require many months in order to procure reinforcements from thence.

It is a proverb in India, that if every man were to throw a stone the English rulers would be buried beneath the shower. And they have seen the rebels, by sheer dint of superior numbers, for four months hold Delhi against all the forces that our Government could collect against them. They know that day by day they sallied forth to harass and annoy the besiegers, and that though the quality, and spirit, and tactics of the troops of Government were incomparably better than those of the rebels, still their numbers enabled the latter to hold the city for four months, and after the assault to defend successive positions until they were enabled to withdraw leisurely with a large quantity of stores and plunder. They know that the defenders of Delhi did not meet with the support and co-operation from outside that they had a right to expect; they know that if, for instance, the ten or twelve battalions, with cavalry and guns, who mutinied in the Gwalior territory, had promptly come into the field, instead of allowing themselves to be kept idle by the Maharajah Scindia, and had attacked the Delhi besieging force in the rear, the siege must have been raised at the least, even if by this combination the complete destruction of the army of Government had not been effected. Let it be observed that I do not answer for the absolute soundness of these calculations and suppositions; but many calculations of this sort have been made, and they are very far from being absurd or ridiculous.

They know that by the mere pressure of overwhelming numbers Havelock's victorious little band was compelled to retire from the Oude territory without effecting the relief of Lucknow; that again a still larger victorious force under Outram and Havelock was, by a similar pressure of hostile numbers, prevented from relieving the garrison, and was in fact compelled to seek protection within the same walls, so long defended by the gallant handful of soldiers they came to save from a fate that could not have been much longer delayed. And finally, they know that Sir Colin Campbell, after eight months with a still larger force and a superb train of heavy guns, after signally and repeatedly defeating the rebels and rescuing the British garrison, was compelled, by sheer pressure of overwhelming numbers, to evacuate the city of Lucknow, and to withdraw the greater part of his troops from the Oude territory, leaving only a garrison in the Alumbagh to form a basis for his future operations when reinforced.

And it must not be imagined that the rebels have no exploits or successes to boast of, to remember, and to record. Like all beaten forces, and especially like all ignorant and half-civilized people after a defeat, they will never overrate their own numerical strength on particular occasions of battle, and will always magnify ours; and in short always endeavour to save their own credit and fame. And their partial successes will be swelled by report, and rumour, and frequent narration, into glorious victories. They will not, in short, have a worse opinion of their national prowess after the cessation of all resistance than they had before the mutinies commenced. In all probability they and the people at large will have a much higher opinion of their capabilities than they ever had before. The very fact of their having dared to oppose, and for a year to combat

against, the great English Company Bahadour, will be a new and memorable possibility that few would have dreamed of twenty years ago.

On the whole, I must arrive at the conclusion that we shall have gained nothing in prestige, even if we have not lost, at the termination of this tremendous crisis; and I must repeat once more that we must not think of garrisoning India, but of governing her. A contingent held against its unwilling and awakened inhabitants by the physical force of foreign soldiers, even if the notion were not indeed the bloodiest of chimeras, could never be anything but a source of weakness and expense to the dominant nation.

E. V.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

CANTON was completely taken on the 29th of December. On the 5th of January, Commissioner Yeh and the Tartar General were captured. Yeh was taken in the dress of a coolie, and was sent on board the *Inflexible* on the 8th. He remained a prisoner off Tiger Island. The Cantonese at the last dates were returning to the city; but the blockade had not been raised.

When Yeh was captured, he trembled excessively, and showed great trepidation. The Tartar General is described as an immense fellow, above six feet in height.

Copies of correspondence between the Earl of Elgin and Commissioner Yeh were issued on Tuesday morning, for the information of the Legislature. In a note to the Chinese Commissioner, dated Hong Kong, December 12, 1857, the Earl of Elgin apprises that functionary of the nature of his Lordship's powers as Ambassador Extraordinary, and proceeds to refer in general terms to the various infractions of treaties by the authorities of the province of Kwangtung. These offences have led the Governments of England and France to unite in a determination to seek by vigorous action reparation for past, and security against future, wrongs. "Under these circumstances," continues the Earl, "the undersigned thinks it his duty to state distinctly to the Imperial Commissioner that he cannot assume the responsibility of arresting the progress of hostile operations against Canton, until the following demands of the British Government are absolutely and unreservedly conceded:—The complete execution at Canton of all treaty engagements, including the free admission of British subjects to the city; compensation to British subjects and persons entitled to British protection for losses incurred in consequence of the late disturbances." Yeh, in his reply, recapitulates (in terms of great courtesy) the circumstances of the original quarrel, and contends that the Chinese were in the right, but does not give any definite answer to the demands. Another communication from the Earl is answered in like strain; and the correspondence then ceases.

The following letter is one of the series which has already been commenced in these columns. It was written before the final operations at Canton, but contains some points of interest:—

—H. M. S.—

"Canton River, Dec. 27, 1857.

"The mail goes out to-morrow, and as we commence operations on that day, I thought you would like to hear from me before I start for Canton. The Naval Brigade is formed into three divisions. Our company is the first of the third division, and we are to carry the scaling-ladders. We go up to-morrow morning (Monday), and form the division during the bombardment, which commences at daybreak, sleep on the ground as near the place as possible on Monday night, and storm the walls of the city on Tuesday at dawn, close to a place called Blindman's House, between the east and north-east gates. The Naval Brigade then is to take the north-east gate, and storm the heights within the city. So far we have orders for at present. Gough's Heights and Fort in rear and commanding the city will have to be taken next; this will probably be the Wednesday's work. The Chinese are said to muster thirty thousand men, including nine thousand Tartars. If this be the case we shall have tough work of it, as we only muster five thousand, including French artillery and everybody. It is impossible to know anything for certain, as they have closed the gates for above a month and keep everything very dark. There are all kinds of yarns flying about; some say the place is all mined, others that there are no end of pitfalls, and the ground strewn with sharp spikes, &c. &c.; but we must take it, like a wife, for better or for worse. We are now lying off that village where the Banterer's men were attacked, but all is quiet there now. Lieutenant Pym behaved very pluckily, covering the retreat of his wounded men with a revolver, although wounded himself in several places. We had a very quiet Christmas, in consequence of the men not being able to get any grog. It is generally a very wild day on board ship, as the commanders allow the crew to have their fling pretty well. You must not be surprised to receive a letter next mail in somebody else's handwriting, because if we have to remain up at Canton, I shall not be able to get writing materials, in which case I shall commission —, who remains on board, to drop you a line for me, and let you know how all goes on."

THE HYDE PARK DEMONSTRATION.

The defeat of the Government on the night of Friday week induced those who had the management of the proposed Sunday meeting in Hyde Park, condemnatory of the Conspiracy Bill, to issue placards during Saturday, stating that the demonstration would not take place. The opportunity, however, was too tempting to the 'roughs' to be thus easily abandoned; and accordingly the park on Sunday exhibited a large gathering of idle and disreputable fellows, who had come out of devotion to no other principle than the love of mischief. All respectable persons had to 'abide the pelting of a pitiless storm' of stones and dirt; and a few foreigners were roughly used on the assumption that they were French spies. Persons in carriages were vigorously hooted, the mob choosing to regard them as supporters of Lord Palmerston's bill. Some anxiety was felt as to the house of the French Ambassador, which is situated at Albert-gate; but it was well guarded with police, and it should be mentioned to the credit of the rabble that an orator who threatened to smash M. de Persigny's windows was himself pelted and compelled to be silent. After a time, the mob was dispersed by a small party of mounted police, who made some captures.

Several ruffianly fellows were examined at the Marlborough-street police-court on Monday, on charges of assault and pocket-picking, arising out of the previous day's demonstration. The police were a good deal injured by stones, and several of the passers-by had been roughly used. In the case of one of the scamps, who had maltreated a gentleman (supposed to be a foreigner) riding in a carriage with a lady, a remand was ordered in the hope that the gentleman would come forward. In other cases, various terms of imprisonment were ordered. The magistrate (Mr. Beadon) strongly denounced the callers of the meeting.

It is, indeed, to be hoped that there will be no more of these Sunday gatherings in the parks. Experience has shown that they end in nothing but a condensation in one spot of the scattered ruffianism of the metropolis, wanton assaults on inoffensive persons, and collisions with the police. They do not reflect any genuine feeling on the part of the public, but, on the contrary, put a weapon in the hands of those who are only too willing to deny popular rights.

THE REFUGEE QUESTION.

The following important document was communicated on Monday night to both Houses of Parliament:—

"Earl Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.
(Received Feb. 21.)"

"Paris, Feb. 20, 1858.

"My Lord,—Having learnt by telegraph that certain resolutions imputing blame to her Majesty's Government for not having made any reply to Count Walewski's despatch to Count Persigny dated the 20th of January had been affirmed by a majority of the House of Commons, I think it a duty to your Lordship to place on record, that although I have not been charged to make any official communication to the French Government in answer to that despatch, I have been enabled by your Lordship's private instructions to place before the French Government the sentiments, views, and intentions of her Majesty's Government far more fully, and I cannot but believe more satisfactorily, than would have been the case had my language been clothed in a more official garb.

"When Count Walewski's despatch was written, the irritation against the supposed apathy of England in a matter so important to France as the preservation of the Emperor's life was excessive. Rightly or wrongly, the idea prevailed that every conspiracy against his Majesty had been organized in England, and that the British laws gave security to the conspirators. No counter-assertions on the part of her Majesty's Government would have had any effect at that moment, and any official notice on the part of your Lordship of Count Walewski's despatch would probably have involved the two Governments in a controversial discussion more likely to have increased than to have calmed the excitement which prevailed. If the object was to soothe, it was important to let time exert its usual influence, and to reserve the official answer to Count Walewski's despatch until it was known whether Parliament would answer the appeal which was to be made to it by her Majesty's Government.

"But it ought not to be ignored that, while taking this prudent course, your Lordship lost no opportunity of informing the French Government, confidentially, of the true bearings of the question which had been raised. Your Lordship's language has been, from the beginning of this unfortunate affair, clear and straightforward. I have now your Lordship's letters before me, in which, while vindicating, in language worthy of your Lordship's name, the right of asylum which Great Britain has ever afforded to strangers of all ranks and nations, and while declaring, in terms as explicit as they are determined, the impossibility of infringing on that great principle of our constitution, you show how utterly insufficient must any enactment be to prevent men of desperate minds from entering upon desperate under-

takings. As your Lordship's true, but very inadequate, organ, I have faithfully represented your feelings and your principles, and could I call upon the Emperor or upon Count Walewski as witnesses, neither, I feel certain, could belie my words.

"I know not what may be the result of last night's vote; but, at all events, I lose no time in stating my conviction that to your Lordship's judicious and prudent conduct at a very critical moment it is owing that, without the shadow of the sacrifice of a single principle, our relations with this Government have not received a shock which might have been fatal to the friendship which yet happily prevails between the two nations.—I have, &c.,

"COWLEY."

The Palmerstonian advocacy of Louis Napoleon has taken a most extraordinary form this week. Mr. Edward Truelove, a bookseller in the Strand, near Temple Bar, has been apprehended and examined at Bow-street on a charge of publishing a pamphlet, by a Mr. W. E. Adams, entitled, *Tyrannicide: Is it Justifiable?* and sold at a penny. It advocates the doctrine of political assassination in extreme cases, and it was contended by Mr. Bodkin, who appeared for the Crown, that Louis Napoleon is pointed at. No names, however, are mentioned; but Mr. Truelove was remanded on bail.

The adjourned examination of M. Simon Bernard, the Frenchman charged with being one of the conspirators in the plot for assassinating the Emperor, took place at Bow-street on Tuesday. The court was filled with auditors, and a large number of persons remained outside. Several French witnesses were examined to prove that M. Bernard transmitted to 'Mr. Thomas Allsop' (who appears to be Felice Orsini), and 'a German named Piercy,' certain pistols and explosive materials, through the agency of M. Outrequin. The oil-cloth which was wrapped round the parcel, when it was sent to M. Outrequin to be called for, was the same as that which enclosed the parcel despatched to France by M. Bernard, via the South-Eastern Railway. Testimony to this effect having been received, Mr. Bodkin applied for another remand of a week. Mr. Sleigh (who appeared for the accused) said he would not oppose the application. He continued:—

"Mr. Bodkin had on the last occasion exclaimed, 'Why, my friend can't be serious to ask bail for a man who says he will shoot the first Frenchman who molests him.' But it was a matter which had lately gained currency that there were in this country persons who had come for the purpose of attempting to attack or kidnap individuals of whose defenceless position they might take advantage, and the prisoner had only said that if such persons should pounce upon him he should defend himself as he was entitled to do. As for the correspondence with Outrequin, it related only to experiments in the dyeing of silks and manufacture of gas from tar, defendant being a chemist. Why was defendant to be treated with less kindness than our own countrymen? Was it because he was a foreigner? Were we afraid of any foreign Power?" (Here the learned counsel, whose manner had been gradually growing warmer till it became passionate, was interrupted by a sudden, loud, and vehement clapping of hands in the court, of which no notice was taken by the magistrate or officers.) "He could not believe that an independent magistrate would allow any feelings to operate but a sense of his duty. The question was not whether the man was guilty, but whether, if admitted to bail, he would appear. That was the test. He was prepared with good substantial bail to any reasonable, or even unreasonable amount. He trusted the magistrate would deal with this case as with any other misdemeanour, though in fact and in truth it was a political prosecution."

Mr. Bodkin said he was sure the magistrate would not require him to answer a speech which was not intended to operate on his worship's mind, "but to have its effect in other places where sympathy with murder is taught and felt." Mr. Jardine (the magistrate) observed that it was far from his wish to keep the accused in custody simply because he is a foreigner; but it was impossible to accept bail. Since the previous examination, Mr. Sleigh had applied to a Judge in chambers to authorize the reception of bail; but the Judge had declined to interfere with the discretion of the magistrate.

During the examination, and when the prisoner was being removed in the van, some rough fellows who had assembled in the street were rather noisy and turbulent.

THE 'PUBLIC SAFETY' BILL IN FRANCE.

The bill relative to Measures of Public Safety, arising out of the attempted assassination on the 14th of January, was submitted to the French Legislative Body on Thursday and Friday week, when a discussion took place presenting several points of interest to English readers. The first speech was that of M. Emile Ollivier, one of the Republican deputies for Paris, who spoke in a most remarkable and noble strain of daring. His remarks have been reported in full by the English papers, but of course not by the French. He said:—

"The bill violates all the principles which civilized nations are agreed to consider as of the essence of sound legislation. 1. It violates the principle of the separation of powers. The judicial should always be separated from the executive power, for otherwise, says Montesquieu, 'the judge might be strong enough to become an oppressor.' This bill surrenders the fortunes and liberties of citizens to three agents of the executive power (Art. 10). 2. Before this tribunal of a totally new kind, those forms which even the most expeditious court of law cannot dispense with altogether disappear. There will be no examination, no confrontation with witnesses, no defence, no discussion, no publicity. The Minister of the Interior will be at once accuser, defender, and judge. 3. Every penal law should clearly define the offence which it punishes. A law which does not do this is no law. Instead of being a safeguard it becomes a menace and a convenient instrument of oppression. In every country the people always prefer a severe law which is precise, to a mild law that is uncertain. Nothing terrifies them so much as the dread of what is 'unknown.' There is not a single phrase in this bill which is not vague and susceptible of the most monstrous interpretations. It punishes those who 'publicly excite' in any manner whatever; those who practise manoeuvres or keep up intelligence abroad; and it sentences to banishment those against whom there are 'grave facts.' 4. It is a first principle that a man cannot be prosecuted a second time for an offence which he has expiated. *Non bis in idem*, say the criminal lawyers. The bill violates this principle, by subjecting to banishment and transportation those who, having been condemned in 1848, 1849, and 1851, have already undergone their sentence. 5. It does more—it affects them retroactively. It will be attempted to deny this; the men of 1848, 1849, and 1851, it will be said, will only come within the purview of the law if 'grave and new facts' shall be found against them. You will not allow yourselves to be deceived by this quibble? What is meant by 'grave facts'? Does the phrase mean the commission of any known offence? No, for then you would not speak of 'grave facts,' but you would use the word crime or misdemeanour. Your 'grave fact' is something or other altogether uncertain, which you may fancy to be such according to times and circumstances.

... If, as you affirm, there exist numerous secret societies widely disseminated, and which weave around you an invisible net, prosecute them. Against them you have already Draconian laws. If it be true that there are throughout the country wretches who meditate the ruin of society, punish them severely; you are fully armed, either by the ordinary code, or by your special enactments. But no; what you really want is to have additional powers against those who do not conspire, but who are displeasing to you, against those whom you can reproach with no offence, and whom nevertheless you hold to be criminals in expectancy. It is against the 'expectants' that you wish to strike. The word is a new one, and advantageously stands in the place of the old word *suspects*. Now these expectants, many of them at least, live by their labour, and to banish them is to sentence them to misery and death. But further, you reserve to yourself the right to transport to Lambessa, or to our pestilential colony of Cayenne, any of the men of 1848, 1849, and 1851, who, having been banished, may in a moment of despair set foot on their native soil without authorization. And not those men alone. He who may use a false passport, who may have said a violent word to any functionary, who may have forgotten in some corner of his house a bullet or a musket, who may not have instantly quitted a group of people assembled in the street, and which he had joined from curiosity; the man in whose dwelling an enemy may have concealed a little fulminating powder; he who in a letter, or perhaps in conversation, may have manifested discontent, expressed a blame, desired a progress, said a few manly words to cheer a friend in despair for the future, or may have called too soon for that liberty which is still promised us; any one, in short, who may have voted badly (*Interruption, and cries of 'Let him go on!'*), displeased a commissary of police, incurred the hatred of a debtor or a discharged servant, or one of those professional informers who never fail to appear on the scene when laws of this kind are passed—any and all of these will be liable to the operation of the proposed measure. That I undertake to prove step by step when we come to discuss the articles separately. Yes, there is not one of you whom I am now addressing, your children or your friends, who may not one day find themselves caught in the meshes of this law. True policy—a policy really great—must ever keep itself subordinate to morality. A petty policy only sets morals at naught. And yet, even according to the rules of this petty policy, your law is a bad one. What! You have governed the country for nine years; you are at peace with all Europe; you have a numerous and highly disciplined army, an intelligent police, and an enormous budget. You have intersected the capital with strategical roads, and at suitable distances you have erected citadels within the walls. No liberty exists. The most formidable liberty of all, that of the press, is now nothing more than the right to say whatever may not displease the Minister of the Interior; and yet you now come to ask

for laws of public safety? Do you not fear that the country may reply to you:—"I have sacrificed for you my liberties, my franchises, my traditions, all that I had conquered with my blood, all that has made me glorious and illustrious among nations. I have made all these sacrifices for the sake of a little tranquillity, and now you want more. But where will you stop? If the power which you have had in your hands for so many years is not sufficient, this law will not satisfy you. You will be obliged to ask for others still more severe; other and more terrible measures will follow until you come to the end of things. If with the peace which you have promised me I must be ever on the watch, ever trembling, always struggling, I prefer the watchings, the terrors, and the struggles of liberty to those of exceptional laws."

Certain journalists who mislead power by their adulation have spoken of William III. in connexion with this bill. They have examined a very hackneyed parallel. It was first suggested after the Hundred Days, by Barrère, for Napoleon I. Chateaubriand had recourse to it for Louis XVIII.; it was often repeated for Louis Philippe, and now it is relied upon again. A very useful lesson may indeed be learned by studying the history of that great but dark personage. Why did he succeed? Was it because in a barbarous age, and just after the termination of an atrocious régime, he maintained the laws of the Stuarts against the press, and two or three times suspended the Habeas Corpus Act—which, remember, is always suspended here, for we have never at any time had guarantees for individual liberty? Charles I. had done worse than William, and he fell. The Republic and Cromwell imitated him, and they fell. James II. outdid them all, and he fell. William III. succeeded, because he sanctioned the Declaration of Rights, and because he proposed the Bill of Pardons, in spite of his councillors, his Parliament, and the party which had called him to the throne—a party which, after the unheard-of persecutions which it had suffered for years, had indeed grounds to be vindictive. "This," says the illustrious Macaulay, "was his best title to fame." William III. succeeded because, at the end of his thirteen years' reign, he had deserved from the proud and powerful English people the appellation of "The Restorer of Public Liberties."

M. Granier de Cassagnac of course defended the measure, and affirmed that neither the first Empire nor the old monarchy had imprisoned nearly so many persons for political or religious causes as the first Republic. The Marquis d'Andelarre opposed the measure, which he thought was dangerous and uncalled for, and would violate the principles of non-retroactivity and of the non-liability of the citizen to be removed from the jurisdiction of his natural judges. M. Riche, who said he belonged in politics to the school of common sense, supported the bill, which he conceived would not injure or menace well-conducted persons. "Drawing-rooms would preserve their liberty of conversation, and the press its freedom of remark;" (!) "it was the poniard alone which the Government desired to wrench from the hands of its enemies." M. Plichon opposed the measure, and criticized its retroactive effect. Still, he admitted that society was menaced with perils, owing to "the profound demoralization of the masses, and the propagation of frightful doctrines." He thought, moreover, that the evil is encouraged by universal suffrage.

M. Baroche, President of the Council of State, in explaining the bearing and effect of the bill, observed:—"Perpetual concessions, exaggerated respect for the scruples of jurists, and systematic tolerance, had in succession led two Governments to the abysses of 1830 and 1848. The Empire would not imitate any such acts of weakness; it knew that the attempt of the 14th of January had been committed by some foreigners coming from other countries, and that the assassins had not exposed their lives without being sustained in their undertaking by some hopes of beholding their crime prove profitable to anarchy. Already on several points of the territory a certain anticipation of approaching disturbances had been perceived: all the information received after the attempt of January 14th had tended to prove the existence of such a state of things. For his part, he desired neither to exaggerate nor to extenuate the evil: there still existed in France some remnants of the insurrectionary bodies of 1848, who received, no one could say how, mysterious intelligence, and towards whom were turned the regards of the abettors of disorder. The country could not remain exposed to the enterprises of that incorrigible minority, and find itself constantly held in check by a few factious malcontents. It was necessary to render them powerless to do harm, and such was the object of the present bill. The Government wanted to have neither a law for the suspected nor a measure of an inquisitorial character. All that it asked for was an arm to defend itself in the face of day, and the Legislative Body, associated, as it was, so closely with it in its policy of reparation, could not refuse what it asked."

On the following day, the various Articles were considered seriatim. The first was opposed by M. Legrand (du Nord), who thought it was vaguely and dubiously expressed; but it found a defender in M. Adolphe Debelleyne. Count de Pierre, regarding the Government as perfectly established, could not perceive any necessity

for the bill. He wondered that people should have asked themselves what would have become of the country if the attempt of the 14th of January had succeeded. "For his own part, he did not entertain the slightest doubt that the general cry would have been, 'L'Empereur est mort! Vive l'Empereur!'" M. Langlois, Councillor of State, and Government Commissioner, contended that the act did not violate any great judicial principle. Art. I. was then voted.

With respect to the Second Article, M. Baroche, President of the Council of State, said, in reply to certain charges of vagueness brought by the Marquis de Talhoet, that "the bill had not in view to punish either regrets or reminiscences, or even hopes. He could declare that opinions expressed with more or less warmth of language—epigrams or allusions—were not what the bill desired to reach." M. Emile Ollivier, however, pressed for further explanations, and asked whether any censure on the Government might be safely expressed in a letter written to a friend in the interior. It appeared to him that the bill was designed to reach and punish the opposition that is to be found in the bosom of family circles. M. Baroche replied that nothing inquisitorial was intended by the article (the objectionable point in which was the use of the word 'manœuvres' among the political offences which are to be punishable). "The fact of having written a letter which might have been seized did not constitute a manœuvre, and, for his part, he could not conceive an extreme case which might never occur being brought forward as a sufficient reason for opposing a measure intended to defend such grave interests as those which were at stake." M. Ollivier again insisted that "the bill reached every provocation made in a public place or in the press. That he perfectly understood; but what he could not understand was that it should be desired to reach the remarks exchanged between friends."

Articles 2, 3, 4, and 5, having been adopted, M. Aymé opposed Article 6, which he thought unnecessary. Article 221 of the Penal Code permits the Judges in extreme cases to subject dangerous persons to the surveillance of the police. The Sixth Article of the new law, however, was adopted, as were Articles 7, 8, and 9.

M. Garenau, in speaking of Article 10 (which was voted like the rest), observed that at the moment of voting this most important measure he felt an indescribable sadness in coming forward to declare that he could not accede to the bill. It was because he was more anxious than any other to behold the firm maintenance of the Empire that he felt unable to vote a bill designated unfortunate by its supporters and disastrous by its opponents.

The bill in its ensemble was then put to the vote, and adopted by 227 votes to 24.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

That narrow and unchristian feeling is to be condemned which regards with jealousy the progress of foreign nations, and cares for no portion of the human race but that to which itself belongs.

DR. AENOLD.

FRANCE.

THE *Moniteur* publishes in its official column a *Senatus Consultum*, signed by M. Troplong, President of the Senate, and by the Secretaries, and approved by the Emperor, whose signature is also affixed, to the effect that no candidate for the Legislative Body can come forward unless, at least eight days before the voting commences, he has made a formal declaration to the proper authorities that "he swears obedience to the Constitution and fidelity to the Emperor." Any candidate coming forward without having fulfilled such obligation is liable to the penalties prescribed by Article 6 of the law of July, 1849.

A funeral service was celebrated last Saturday at the church of the Madeleine for the repose of the soul of the late Signor Lablache, whose remains were brought from Naples, where he died, to be interred in the cemetery of Pere-la-Chaise, near those of his wife.

"A young man of seventeen, a musician, named Charles Lefay, residing at his father's house at 40, Boulevard de Strasbourg, has appeared," says the *Daily News* Paris correspondent, "at the bar of the Tribunal of Correctional Police, to answer a charge of 'insult against the person of the Emperor.' The proceedings being secret, the words constituting the alleged offence are not known. The prisoner urged in excuse for what he had said, that he was young and inexperienced. The court took into consideration this defence, and only sentenced him to two months' imprisonment, and a fine of fifty francs."

M. de Persigny, who had a long interview with Lord Cowley on Sunday evening, has returned to London.

It is almost needless to allude to the remarks of the French papers on the defeat of Lord Palmerston on the night of Friday week. The journals are of course unable to express anything else than regret at the success of Mr. Milner Gibson's amendment. They adopt a moderate tone, however, and the general opinion seems to be that the alliance will not be endangered by existing circumstances.

Three members of the Paris bar, belonging to the advanced Republican party," says the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, "were arrested on Tuesday.

Their names, I am told, are Maillard, who was one of the Commissioners of the Provisional Government, and a candidate at the last election in the department of the Corréze; Vinkin, who was Deputy-Procurer in Africa under the same régime; and Hubbard, who was imprisoned for three years for the Opéra Comique plot. Hardly six months have passed since his release. It is also said that an actor of the Odéon is under arrest. The cause of these arrests is probably some indiscreet or violent language."

ITALY.

The *Gazzetta Popolare* of Cagliari announces the arrest of the oldest bandit on the island, named Meluddu. He had been the terror of the district of Orseoi since 1829, and had up to this time defied every attempt to arrest him, having chosen one of the most inaccessible mountains of Sardinia, called De Su Angiu, for his stronghold. He was at length arrested on the 28th ult., about midnight, by a party of carabinieri, who had the boldness to venture among the precipices of the mountain in utter darkness, though the rocks and paths were slippery with frost. Meluddu has many murders and other crimes to answer for.

An Englishman has been arrested at Genoa on a charge of being implicated in the attack on the French Emperor of the 14th of January. His name is Darrell Hodges.

The Sardinian Government has presented to the Chambers a bill on conspiracies against the life of the heads of foreign countries. Like the ill-fated bill introduced into our own House of Commons by Lord Palmerston, this measure proposes an increase of punishment for those who conspire, and it also proposes to punish the defence of political assassination by imprisonment of from three to twelve months. The bill, moreover, increases the number of challenges of the jury allowed both to the Government prosecutor and the accused.

The Italian refugees, Captain Palestini and the brothers Pezzi, have been arrested at Genoa.

A considerable number of arrests have been made at Palermo in consequence of the attempt in Paris of the 14th of January; but no political trials have taken place. The fortifications at Palermo have been strengthened, and the Government seems to be taking precautions against a surprise.

Pittet, a Swiss citizen living at Naples, and for many years the confidential servant of the late Sir William Temple, has been ordered to leave the kingdom. He recently demanded payment of a debt from a countryman, who immediately denounced him to the police as a malefactor. He has therefore left for England.

Two young students have been arrested at Rome for carrying on a political correspondence with some inhabitants of the province of Ascoli.

The Duke of Zitta has been stopped on his way to Paris at Via Malla, near the Lake of Constance, by a band of brigands, and plundered. He was travelling with the Duchess in a coach and pair. In the boot were found five thousand gold Napoleons, besides several valuable papers, and a brilliant set of diamond ornaments belonging to the Duchess.

A tender, signed by Signor Bonelli, the well-known constructor of telegraphs, has been made to the English Government on behalf of a proposed company to be called "The Company of the Anglo-Indian Telegraph Mail." The line is to pass from Malta to Alexandria.

TURKEY.

The weather has been unusually severe in European Turkey, even as far south as Constantinople itself. "For more than forty days," says the *Times* correspondent, "hills and dales, the houses and streets, have been covered with snow, and the Golden Horn down the Arsenal-bridge repeatedly frozen over. The oldest inhabitants don't remember such a succession of cold weather. There are, indeed, records of greater momentary cold, but none of such a continuation of it. In reading the local papers, you would almost think yourself in Russia;—accounts of houses sunk under the weight of snow on their roofs, fearful stories of wolves promenading in the streets, the guard turning out with bayonets fixed and charging the hungry visitors, shepherds and their flocks lost in the snow-drifts, or devoured by the same hungry rovers, and other similar horrors and wonders." As a consequence of this unusual state of the atmosphere, the poor have suffered terribly, and even the rich have been afflicted by *grippe*, or influenza.

The late events in Servia and the disturbances in the Herzegovina have induced the Government to appoint Ethem Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs under Edschid's administration, and Kabuli Effendi, chief of a section in that department, as commissioners to those countries.

The insurrection in the Herzegovina continues, and there have been some severe encounters between the insurgents and the Turks. The troops of the Sultan have also had a sharp encounter with the Montenegrins near the fortified town of Podgoritz, on the eastern frontier of Montenegro. The result is not stated; but several were killed and wounded on both sides.

PRUSSIA.

A vast number of presents, including many of great richness and some of humbler pretensions, have been sent to the Prince and Princess Frederick-William. The various cities, towns, and 'Estates' have contributed to

these offerings, some of which are very ingenious as well as elegant.

The Prince and Princess Frederick William have published the following lines addressed to the whole population of Prussia:—"From the very first moment of our setting foot on the soil of our country, after our marriage, so many valuable proofs of sincere interest in the remembrance of them will remain indelible in our hearts for our whole lives. It has only been to very few that we could in person express our feelings, and sufficiently thank for all the manifestations and presents. In speaking thus our thanks to the whole country, we do so with the ardent prayer to God that He will confer on our dear country His most ample blessings now and ever.—FRIEDRICH WILHELM, Prince of Prussia. VICTORIA, Princess of Prussia.—Berlin, Feb. 19."

The Princess has quite recovered from her late indisposition, caused by cold.

AUSTRIA.

The plan for laying an electric cable between Ragusa and Alexandria is likely to be altogether relinquished. The English Government is not inclined to accede to the design.

BELGIUM.

In the Belgian Chamber of Representatives, on Saturday, M. Charles de Brouckere called the severe attention of the Government to the conduct of the Belgian Consul in London, who, he said, had carried on a "disgraceful traffic in passports." The Minister of Foreign Affairs replied that measures had been adopted to prevent the Belgian consuls from delivering passports to foreigners.

M. Delfosse, the representative of Liège in the Belgian Chamber, died suddenly on Monday morning, at Brussels, of apoplexy.

SPAIN.

The masquerading during the Carnival at Madrid presented some political features. Narvaez and other well-known ex-Ministerial characters were caricatured openly, and the public seem to have been highly amused.

DENMARK.

The King is ill of erysipelas. The inflammation has spread a little, but without fever or further serious disposition.

AMERICA.

A REMOUE is current in the United States of a fearful insurrection having occurred near Fayetteville, Arkansas, among the slaves. The outbreak is said to have been incited by two white men. The negroes are represented to have attacked two settlements, killing twenty-three persons, burning houses, and slaying cattle. The insurgents, it is added, were finally subdued by the organization of a force of volunteers, who killed seven and captured eighteen of the black men. The truth of the rumour, however, is doubted.

General Walker, Colonel Frank Anderson, and several other Filibusters, have been arrested at New York for violation of the neutrality laws.

During a hot and very prolonged debate in the House of Representatives on the Kansas question, an affray took place between two of the members, owing, it would seem, to one not being on the right side of the chamber. The partisans of each joined in the fight, and the Speaker had great difficulty in restoring order. The original assailant was a Pro-slavery member, and the person he assaulted was an Abolitionist.

The Navy Department has appointed the officers to the steamship Niagara of that department, and the vessel is again to be engaged during the coming spring, under the command of Captain W. L. Hudson, in the renewed effort to lay down the Atlantic telegraph cable.

A bill providing for a constitution has passed the Kansas Legislature. Writs have been issued for the arrest of McLean and Sherwood, who have escaped. The Westport correspondent of the *Republican* states that difficulties have again broken out at Fort Scott, Kansas, and that a requisition has been made to the Governor for troops. The House of Representatives at Washington has adopted the proposition of Mr. Harris, of Illinois, to refer the Lecompton Constitution to a committee of fifteen members instead of the Committee on Territories.

In the New York money-market on the 8th inst. there was more activity; but the rates of interest were declining, and capital was freely offered.

The Mexican insurgents have triumphed over the Government forces, and Comonfort, being abandoned by his troops, has fled to the United States. Zuloaga, the insurrectionary chief, has been proclaimed Provisional President, and is acknowledged within a considerable radius of the metropolis. He represents the clerical interest, and has repealed the laws for the sale of Church property and annulled the sales. A considerable force is in the field against him, and several of the States have united to oppose the new President. At San Luis, Alvaro has pronounced in favour of Santa Anna.

The steam-boat Colonel Crossman, from New Orleans to St. Louis, has burst her boiler, taken fire, and burnt to the water's edge. She had on board two hundred passengers, from twenty to fifty of whom are reported to be lost. Among the saved are the captain, mate, and five ladies.

STATE OF TRADE.

Most of the manufacturing towns exhibited last week a falling off from that slight improvement which had been noticeable for some time previously. With the exception of the trades of Nottingham, which have been rather brisk, business has been very languid, and in some places perfectly stagnant.

The Board of trade returns for the month of January were issued on Monday morning, and present a reduction of 1,836,505*l.* in the declared value of our exportations as compared with the corresponding month of last year, and of 753,186*l.* even from January, 1856. The chief falling off has been in Manchester goods and also in woollens and silks; but there is scarcely a single item of any importance on the favourable side. Machinery continues to be largely shipped; but this may be attributed to the fact that the orders for such work are usually given many months in anticipation, and that consequently the exports do not diminish until a considerable time after the cessation of purchases. With regard to imported commodities there has been no general falling off either in arrivals or consumption. Indeed, in the latter case there has been an increase as respects many principal articles, including sugar, coffee, tea, fruits, and spices. Wines and spirits exhibit a diminution. In grain and flour there has been no material variation.—*Times.*

The general business of the port of London has continued very inactive during the week ending last Saturday. Owing to the easterly wind, many vessels are detained in the Channel, overdue. The number of ships reported inward was 131, including 34 with cargoes of corn, flour, rice &c., four with cargoes of sugar, and one from Shanghai, with 14,706 packages of tea and 1593 bales of silk. The number cleared outward was 104, including 11 in ballast. The number on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 43.—*Idem.*

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A BOILER has exploded at a mine in the parish of Uxylant, Cornwall. The boiler-house was filled with hot water to the depth of some feet, and four persons were so badly scalded and otherwise injured that they shortly afterwards died. Others were also a good deal hurt. The boiler was in admirable order, and the cause of the accident is unknown.

A boat's crew of twelve men, belonging to her Majesty's ship Wellington landed on the Scotch coast a short time back, and dug up a quantity of hemlock, which they mistook for wild celery or parsley. Eight of them partook of this, and speedily became very seriously ill—so much so that two of them died, while the others still languish.

IRELAND.

THE TRIAL OF THE MAYO PRIESTS.—The trial of Father Conway was brought to a conclusion last Saturday. The jury were unable to agree on any one of the counts, and the minority refused to give their reason for not coming to a verdict. The jurymen were accordingly discharged, amidst some cheering. The trial of the Rev. Luke Ryan was proceeded with on Monday, and ultimately a postponement of the case to the sittings after next Trinity Term was agreed to, at the request of the counsel for the defence, who said that one of his most material witnesses was absent from Dublin.

THE ALLEGED DISTRESS IN DONEGAL.—It appears that the statements with respect to the existence of great distress in Donegal have been excessively exaggerated.

THE TIPPERARY BANK.—The Tipperary Bank case came on on Tuesday at Dublin before the Master in Chancery for his final decision upon the offer made by the English shareholders of 6500*l.* in full discharge of all claims against them in connexion with the bank. The Master sanctioned the acceptance of the offer.

MURDER BY A MANIAC.

THOMAS KERSHAW, a youth of nineteen, and Catharine Kershaw, the former son of the latter, were tried last Saturday at the Lancaster Spring Assizes on a charge of murdering Robert Kershaw, the father of the young man and the husband of the woman, at Over Darwen, on the 13th of January. Both pleaded Not Guilty. Thomas Kershaw was also charged with a murderous assault on Charles Collins, a warder in the House of Correction at Preston. To this he pleaded Guilty. The particulars of both cases have already appeared in this journal; those of the latter, last week.

Both mother and son have been for some time disordered in their minds. On the 13th of January, the father was murdered; and the discovery of the deed was thus related with terrible vividness by a brother of the male prisoner, in giving his evidence at the trial:—

"When I came home in the evening [of the 13th of January], my mother was in the house, and I asked her where my father was, and she said she had seen nothing of him since four o'clock. At nine o'clock, my brother Thomas came home. He said he was sleepy and wanted to go to bed. He asked me to go to bed with him. We

got our suppers, and went to bed rather earlier than usual. When we had got into bed, I asked him if he knew where my father was, and he said he did not know unless he was looking after him. We then went to sleep, and after some time he awoke me and said he had something to tell me that was awful. He then said:—"When I came from Blackburn, my father was dead upon the hearthstone. I took him and dragged him down into the cellar and covered him with coals. I believe my mother has done it, but you must not tell any one." Then he desired me to go with him at midnight, and take ship, as he had seen an advertisement in the newspapers that a ship was sailing the following day. I promised him all he required, but said I must go into the cellar and look for myself. I did so, and after turning over some of the coals, I discovered a man's leg. I then ran out of the house to one of my uncles, and told him what I had discovered. A cousin of mine named John Holden came down to the house, and I ran for a policeman. The policeman came with me to the house, and the coals were taken away, and my father's body was taken up-stairs into the kitchen. My mother was in the habit of railing at my father for not looking, as she said, after her property. She imagined that the world was hers. There was no ground for railing so at my father. I never saw my brother show anything disrespectful towards my father, but to me he has said that my father was a traitor, a villain, and things of that kind. He has said these things often. My brother lately considered himself a great personage, and said he considered himself a person who would become the great deliverer of what he called the rotten constitution of the world. He said that we were living under a system of Gog, and that the prophecies mentioned in the Bible respecting the overthrow of Gog were about to be fulfilled, and that he was the party to bring it about. He said that men did nothing but study other people's injury, and gave themselves up to the worst passions of human nature, and that my father was the chief of them, and that one day he (my brother) should be able to bring all to justice. He said my father, under this feeling, was doing all he could to keep him down. He imagined that my father and my eldest sister had been plotting together to bring about an improper intimacy between them, and that the result was to be laid upon him in order to keep him down. He also imagined that they were plotting together to take his life if that failed. He has said that to me scores of times. He so firmly believed in what I have now told you that he durst not go to bed without first looking under the bed to see if my father and sister were there. He has named this for five months. I have never mentioned this before except to my relations the day after my brother first told me of it. The morning before my father was killed, Thomas got out of bed about two or three o'clock in the morning, and I heard a pistol discharged on the top of the stairs. He then at once came into bed. I asked him what he was doing that for, and he replied, 'I'm only frightening them; go tell my father to fetch a policeman,' and if he was willing to do so, I should know by that they had some feeling against him."

In cross-examination, this witness gave several particulars of the wild delusions that his brother laboured under. He was in the habit, as one of his sisters said, of "reading and brooding over books." He read a good deal in the Bible, chiefly the prophecies and the Book of Revelations; and he took a fancy into his head that he was commissioned by God to massacre all the Gogites, of whom he said his father was one of the worst. He stated that he meant to overthrow the Emperors of France and Russia by means of an army furnished by the American President. He thought that the two Emperors meant to invade this country, and he conceived that his father had a design on his (Thomas's) life. "Scores of times," said the brother, in cross-examination, "he has expressed a wish that he had never been born, and appeared wretchedly miserable. On one occasion, when he appeared to be brooding, he rose up, struck the table with his foot and knocked a piece right out of it, and went down into the cellar, and remained some time sobbing and crying. On Saturday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, he got a candle and went up-stairs, and was going to set fire to a bundle of books, but I persuaded him not to do so. I don't suppose there was a better young man anywhere before these fits came on about twelve months ago." On one occasion he exclaimed, "Oh, my head!" and then added, "Father, take me to th' asylum, for I'm nooan rest." Once he tried to hang himself. The night before the murder, he cried out, "Oh, dear! I wish my head was cut into a thousand pieces." On the day on which the murder was committed, his younger sister saw him go into the cellar where the body was lying; and he then "looked white and wild." When the corpse was discovered, it was found to be frightfully battered; and, besides several injuries on the head, the ribs were fractured, as if some one had jumped on them. "The probability," said the medical man on the trial, "is, that the person who inflicted the wounds was in a state of frenzy."

There being no evidence at all to implicate the mother, the Judge directed an acquittal in her case; and Thomas Kershaw was also acquitted on the ground of insanity. He will of course be kept in close custody.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THIS court resumed its sittings on Monday morning, when James Moulton, a salesman, was charged with the manslaughter of Christopher Wright. Both were inmates of St. Olave's Union Workhouse, and on the 6th of February Moulton was teasing Wright by calling him a Yorkshireman, a name to which he had a great objection. They fought, but afterwards shook hands, and sat down to supper. In the course of the meal, Wright, who was previously paralyzed, fell down in a fit, from which he never recovered. The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

Harry Williams, a labouring lad of fifteen, was tried for firing a pistol at Mr. Beale Frederick French, under circumstances already related in these columns. Mr. French was seriously hurt. There appears to have been not the smallest motive for the act; but the boy's mother said her son was rather eccentric (though of a kind disposition), was fond of fire-arms, and had had some words with her on the morning in question. He was found Guilty, and sentenced to hard labour for two years.

The trial of Mr. Edward Auchmuty Glover for misdemeanour has been again postponed, on account of the accused being ill. It is now fixed for the first Wednesday of the April session.

Alfred Feist, late master of the Newington workhouse, surrendered on Wednesday to take his trial on a charge of misdemeanour. It will be recollected that he was examined recently at one of the police-offices in connexion with the disposal of dead bodies of the paupers in the workhouse to medical men, for anatomical purposes. One of the chief witnesses now produced against him was a Mr. Hogg, an undertaker in St. George's-road, Southwark, who deposed that the body of a certain female pauper for which he had provided a shell was changed by the order of Mr. Feist; another body was substituted, which the relatives of the woman followed to the grave under the belief that they were attending the remains of the person in whom they were interested; and the corpse of the woman was disposed of for dissection. Hogg had refused to answer any questions unless a promise were given him that he should not be prosecuted. On this ground, and for the further reason that he (Hogg) had an inducement for sending the bodies to the hospital himself, inasmuch as in that case he got more highly paid, the counsel for the defence urged the jury not to credit the undertaker's evidence. Several persons, moreover, gave Feist a good character; but the evidence of Hogg was corroborated by other witnesses, and a verdict of Guilty was consequently recorded. The jury then said, they were anxious to express their regret that, owing to the promise that was made to him by the guardians, the man Hogg had not been placed in the dock with the defendant. Mr. Robinson (who appeared for the prosecution) said that the guardians felt bound to adhere to their agreement, and probably the promise would not have been made if it had not been felt that there would possibly have been a difficulty in making out the case without the information which was derived from this person. No sentence was passed on Feist, who was allowed to be at large on his procuring sureties to appear and receive judgment in case the questions of law that are reserved should be decided against him.

George Richard Ratcliffe, a youth of nineteen, was tried on Tuesday on a charge of uttering a forged cheque for 30*l.*, with intent to defraud the London Joint-Stock Bank. He was clerk in the service of Messrs. Mockford and Mesnard, merchants in Thames-street, and part of his duty was to fill up the cheques of the firm, keep the cash account, and bring back the pass-book at certain intervals from the banker's. A cheque for 30*l.* was paid by the bank on the 19th of January; but none had been issued at that date by the prosecutors. There were several very suspicious circumstances against the prisoner; but, strange to say, the alleged forged cheque could not be discovered, and the case therefore broke down. Accordingly there was no option for the jury but to return a verdict of Not Guilty. The youth has since been tried on the technical charge of stealing a piece of paper, found Guilty, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

Henry Edward Legge, a young man of gentlemanly appearance, surrendered to take his trial upon an indictment, which charged that he, being in the service of Her Majesty as paymaster of the 2nd Regiment of Royal West Surrey Militia, received in that capacity several large sums of money on the public account, and that he embezzled a sum of 1300*l.*, a portion of the moneys so received. A large amount of evidence was received, but it failed to establish the charge, and it appeared furthermore that the accounts were very imperfectly kept. The accused was therefore Acquitted.

TRIAL FOR ARSON.—Rather a singular trial for arson came on at the Lancaster Spring Assizes on Friday week, before Mr. Baron Martin. George Thwaites was indicted with James Holden for setting fire to a cotton mill at Buxton belonging to the first named. Holden pleaded Guilty, and, having turned approver, was put into the

witness-box. He had been employed in the mill, and was treated with more kindness than the other hands, owing, it was said, to Thwaites having an improper intimacy with the man's sister. The mill was burnt down on the 9th of November, and Holden swore that he had been bribed by his employer to bring about the conflagration, which he did. The building was insured for 2670*l.*, on which 2334*l.* were paid after the fire. The evidence of the approver was not sufficiently confirmed, and Thwaites was acquitted amidst some demonstrations of applause.

WIFE-BEATING.—Henry Handon, a man described as a stable helper, was charged last Saturday at the Westminster police-court with a savage attack on his wife. Having had a quarrel with her, he threw her on the bed, and beat her about the head and body, after which he struck her across the hip with a large poker. A few days later, he repeated this conduct, and, jumping on her, fractured her ribs. He was sent to prison, with hard labour, for six months.

THE MURDER OF A BOY NEAR NOTTINGHAM.—A man, at present under confinement in the Nottingham Lunatic Asylum, has confessed to having killed the boy Atkinson, who was found murdered in Nottingham Forest last November. The boy who was in company with Atkinson at the time he was decaying away states that the lunatic very much resembles the man who induced Atkinson to go with him.

MURDER NEAR FAIRBOROUGH.—A quarrel arose last Saturday night at the village of Cove, near Fairborough, among a number of young men of the agricultural class who had attended a club meeting, and afterwards adjourned to a tavern. Two of them fought for some time, and at length one stabbed the other in the abdomen with a knife. The injured man died at three o'clock the following morning. The assassin and two other men were arrested.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—An Irish pig-drover, named Pindar, got into conversation last Saturday afternoon, at Nottingham market, with three men respecting some purchases they wished to make. He agreed to ride with them to Derby in a vehicle they had got with them, and they left the town about half-past five. When they had driven about a mile, they suddenly sprang upon Pindar, who was somewhat intoxicated, cut out his pockets, which contained from 30*l.* to 40*l.*, threw him out of the vehicle, and drove quickly away. Two of the thieves have been apprehended.

ATTACKS ON THE POLICE BY FOREIGNERS.—A Russian, of the name of Michael Sitkoe, has attempted to stab a police constable in Whitechapel, and has likewise ferociously attacked several other officers, severely injuring one of them. In these assaults he was aided by many of his countrymen. The policeman was on duty in Wentworth-street, between one and two o'clock on Monday morning, when he saw a number of foreigners in a very excited state, one of whom was brandishing a broom. As they were very noisy, and caused a great disturbance, he endeavoured to quiet them; but, as it appeared, from what he could understand from them, that they had been at the meeting in Hyde Park on the previous day, and had been ill-used there, he suffered them to proceed on their way, and left them. Very shortly afterwards, however, he was met by a woman, who begged him to come into Commercial-street; and, on his arrival there, he saw a furious riot going forward, and a policeman defending himself with his staff against a mob of foreigners who were fiercely attacking him in a body. These outrages, it appears, were entirely caused by the constable quietly telling them to go peaceably home, when he saw them conducting themselves in a very noisy and improper manner in the streets, and insulting the passers-by. When the former policeman reached the spot where the strife was going on, the accused, who seemed to take the most active part in the fray, drew a large and formidable dagger-knife, and made a thrust with it at the officer's breast, but his aim was fortunately prevented from taking its intended effect by the latter making a dexterous leap on one side. Being thus foiled in his attempt, the ruffian and his comrades ran down a court, in which some of them live, and from the windows of their houses they flung several large stones and brickbats at the police, one of which struck their sergeant, and seriously hurt him. The chief offender was finally subdued and captured by a body of policemen, after making a fierce resistance, during which he fought and kicked desperately. He was subsequently brought before the Worship-street magistrate, and remanded.

THE SCOTCH MARRIAGE LAW.—A very extraordinary case of bigamy was tried at the Carlisle Spring Assizes on Tuesday. Mary Simpson Carruthers, a handsome woman, about thirty-six years of age, was indicted for marrying again while her first husband was still alive. In May, 1838, she had been driven in a gig to Sark tollbar, over Gretna-bridge, from Carlisle, by Richard Carruthers, a butcher of Carlisle. She was then only sixteen years of age, and in the presence of the driver, a man named Moore, she was married by Janet Beattie, the daughter of the tollbar-keeper, according to the law of Scotland. This event took place at two o'clock in the morning, and the cross-examination elicited that a great deal of frolic and joking was going on at the time, Carruthers saying they had come to be married, and

Janet Beattie saying she could soon manage that for them, making them join hands, and asking them if they were single and willing to be married. The questions being answered in the affirmative, Janet Beattie declared them to be lawfully married. It would appear that the girl lived with Carruthers about a month, and they then parted. She looked upon the ceremony as a mere joke, and, believing herself single, had married a man named Wilson. Carruthers died about four years ago, and Wilson, after living with the accused nineteen years, desired to get rid of her and marry another woman. He therefore instituted this prosecution. The woman was found Guilty, but set free on her own recognizances not to annoy Wilson.

MURDER IN THE HAYMARKET.—Eliza Tobin, a woman of light character, has been murdered at No. 8, Arundel-court, Haymarket. About half-past two o'clock on Thursday morning, she was accompanied to her lodgings by a man. She had in her possession a large amount of money, a gold watch and chain, and other property. The man left the house about half-past five o'clock; at half-past eight, some of the inmates knocked at the woman's door, and, receiving no answer, went in. The poor creature was then found lying dead in bed, face downwards, with her hands behind her. She had been strangled or suffocated, and there were evidences of a violent struggle having taken place. The murderer is known to be a German, and the police are on his track.

MURDER IN CUMBERLAND.—Jacob Skelton has been tried at the Carlisle Assizes on a charge of murdering an old man of eighty-five, named Irwin, at Hayton, on Christmas Day, as he was going to a prayer meeting early in the morning. The facts appeared in this paper at the time. The prosecution alleged that the prisoner had an ill feeling towards the old man, and expected some money at his death. The counsel for the defence suggested that Irwin had been knocked down and run over by a horse; and the evidence, which was purely circumstantial, was not considered by the jury sufficient to warrant a conviction. Skelton was therefore acquitted. This verdict excited expressions of disapproval in court, and it was necessary to keep Skelton in goal during the night, to save him from the mob.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

AN action for breach of promise of marriage has been tried in the Court of Common Pleas. Miss Appleton, the plaintiff, is the daughter of a tradesman, and Mr. Morse, the defendant, is the landlord of the Chester Arms, in Bunhill-row. There were no very remarkable features in the case, which exhibited only the ordinary amount of heartlessness on the part of the man. Morse is five-and-forty; and he appears also to have paid attentions to a Miss Wells, a barnaid, who had 500*l.* Ultimately, however, he married neither Miss Appleton, nor Miss Wells, but a Mrs. Sandal, the employer of the latter, and a moneyed person about fifty years of age. The whole affair was a matter of sordid calculation; but Mr. Morse has had to pay damages to the extent of 300*l.* for his preference of the widow.—Another action of the same kind has been tried at the Spring Assizes at Lancaster. In this case the quarrel, between the lovers arose out of the mother of the young lady engaging a servant for her daughter at 12*l.* a year, in anticipation of the marriage. The suitor said he thought this was an unwarrantable assumption on the part of the lady's mother; that he was not a gentleman; and that he could not pay such a sum as 12*l.* per annum for a servant. The lady retorted satirically, and after a time the match was broken off. The same amount of damages was given in this as in the preceding case. Previous to the reception of the evidence, an immense mass of letters from the gentleman was brought forward by the counsel for the prosecution; on seeing which, Mr. Justice Byles asked, in a tone of despair, "Is that the correspondence on one side only?" The answer in the affirmative caused loud laughter in court. Only a selection, however, was read. The epistles were very long, and were written in a melancholy and devotional strain.

Cases of great hardship are arising under the new arrangement with respect to French passports, by which it is necessary first of all to obtain a testimony as to respectability of a magistrate, who, however, will not grant it unless the applicant is personally known to him. In one instance, a young girl who had been living as lady's-maid with a family at present residing in France, and who had been sent for by her mistress, applied for the magisterial certificate; but, being a perfect stranger to the court, and having no friends in London personally acquainted with any of its officials, her application was reluctantly refused. She urged that the Emperor of the French could hardly live in fear of being assassinated by a lady's maid; but the magistrate had no discretionary power, and the girl has probably been compelled to abandon her journey, although she said she had taken her railway ticket in the morning, not dreaming of such an obstacle being raised. On Tuesday, a lady applied to the Southwark magistrate for a recommendation to the Foreign Office for the necessary permission to visit Paris. Her husband, an Englishman, is living there, and wishes her to join him. The magistrate, however,

not knowing the lady, declined to grant the request, but recommended her to apply to one of the West-end offices, as she stated she was known in that quarter of the town.

The Mr. Davis, a Spanish merchant, who was last week charged at Guildhall with the abduction of a young girl, but who was set at liberty on its appearing that the girl went with him voluntarily, applied on Tuesday to Mr. Alderman Copeland, for a recommendation for a passport. He stated that he had since married the girl—a course he would have taken before, as that was his intention from the first, but that he did not like to be interfered with by his friends; and he produced the marriage certificate in proof of what he said. The Alderman expressed great satisfaction at this result; wished the newly-married couple all comfort and prosperity; and granted the recommendation.

The police magistrates continue to receive applications from wives deserted by their husbands for protection to their property. Indeed, this feature of domestic life promises to be of constant recurrence at the offices. All the stories exhibit the usual incidents of profligacy and hard-heartedness on the part of the husbands, and of suffering on that of the wives.

A young woman, named Flora Augusta Nolin, has made an application for assistance to the Lambeth magistrate, under singular circumstances. About five years ago, at Cambridge, she made the acquaintance of a French gentleman, who, though avowedly a Roman Catholic, did not object to accompany her and her relations to a Protestant place of worship. In the year 1854, they were married, and in 1856 they went to France, where in time she discovered that he was a French priest, and that consequently her marriage was invalid. Subsequently he deserted her, and she had reason to believe he passed nine months in the monastery of La Trappe. He then rejoined her, and she was persuaded to accompany him back to England. Two months ago, he again deserted her, and she believed he had returned to La Trappe. She and her child (a little girl three years old) were in great destitution, and she therefore solicited assistance. Mr. Elliott ordered that a sum of money should be given to her out of the poor-box, and requested her to call again on a future day.

The affairs of Francis Brewer Coleman, a linen-draper, of Queen's-buildings, Brompton, have come before the Court of Bankruptcy. The accounts commenced August 30th, 1853, with a capital of 700*l*., and closed October 3rd, 1857, with debts 5216*l*., and assets 850*l*. The bankrupt had obtained goods upon credit, and then sold them wholesale at a great loss, as a means of raising money. Mr. Commissioner Holroyd said he felt it to be his duty to withhold the certificate altogether; but certificates of arrest would be kept back for twenty-one days, to allow an opportunity of appeal.

An application was made on Monday to the Marlborough-street magistrate, for advice, by a tradesman who stated that he had applied to the Town and Country Loan and Discount Bank, Orange-street, for a loan of 100*l*. on leasehold property; that he had filled up the required printed form, given references, and paid 1*l* 2*s* 6*d*.; but that, notwithstanding this, his application had been refused. The magistrate said the only course for the applicant to take was to try the County Court, which he said he would certainly do. Several applications of a similar kind, having reference to the same society, have been recently made at the Marlborough-street court.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK TRIAL.

The trial of the Royal British Bank Directors has continued, during the whole of the present week, to drag its wearisome details through the daily papers; and it is not yet completed. The speeches for the defence commenced on Wednesday, when Lord Campbell, after congratulating Sir Fitzroy Kelly (counsel for Mr. Stapleton) on his elevation to the office of Attorney-General in the new Ministry, directed him to take precedence of the other counsel. Sir Fitzroy proceeded to argue that there was not one tittle of evidence to implicate his client. Mr. Stapleton became a depositor and director on the 31st of July, 1855. "If," argued Sir Fitzroy, "the bank were sound on the 31st of December, 1855, it was also sound at the time when Mr. Stapleton joined it; and if it were true that the balance-sheet was wrong at one time, it was clear, and had been proved, it was false at any other period; and Mr. Stapleton, in the hour when he became a shareholder of the Royal British Bank, in July, 1855, became a ruined man. He was the deceived, and not the deceiver; he was the victim, and not the perpetrator of the crime with which he was charged." In conclusion, Sir Fitzroy contended that "there was nothing in Mr. Stapleton's conduct that could cast suspicion on the honour, the integrity, or the good name of that gentleman." At this there was applause—an ebullition of feeling which Lord Campbell rebuked.

Mr. Serjeant Shee, in addressing the jury for Alderman Kennedy, said that he "was one of the original promoters of the bank, in which he had staked the whole of his fortune, and, during the time he had been connected with it, he had never trafficked in its shares or earned a shilling from the concern. When he became aware of some discounts in connexion with Macgregor, who, from his having been Under-Secretary to the Board of Trade in Sir Robert Peel's Government, was believed

to be a man of substance and respectability, he left the directory, but was induced to return in October, 1854, and remained till the stoppage of the bank, doing his best to mitigate the losses that had been incurred since its establishment. There could be no doubt that Mr. Alderman Kennedy knew of some locks-up of the bank, through the Welsh mines and other advances; but there was no reason to believe, till after the bankruptcy, that any other than Mullens's securities were hopeless. His belief all along was that the bank only wanted commercial strength at the board to make it one of the safest and soundest of its kind in the kingdom."

On Thursday, the proceedings commenced with the speech of Mr. Edwin James for Mr. Esdaille. That gentleman, it was urged, "had always asserted that the bank's capital was not nearly sufficient. He remained a director until February, 1855, when he assumed the chair. He (Mr. James) had already said that his client did not wish to shelter himself behind the back of any one; but it was only right to state that the position of Mr. Cameron in the bank was one of importance, and that the directors were mere tools and puppets entirely under his control and at his mercy. The finance committee was a mere farce and mockery; and Mr. Cameron must have laughed in his sleeve at the three members sitting up-stairs in the innocent belief that they were discounting all the bills, when he was below, passing his own bills and those of his friends, just as he pleased, and without their intervention. Another actor was Mr. Mullens, who, as professional adviser, had the entire confidence of the directors, and shamefully abused it." Mr. Edwin James further argued that Mr. Esdaille had all along acted for the benefit of the bank; that he constantly endeavoured to bring to book Mr. Cameron, Mr. Mullins, Mr. Gwynne, Mr. Humphrey Brown, and other debtors to the business; that he had not gained any advantage by his position in the concern; that, had he been dishonest, he might have helped himself to any extent he liked; but that, "with the true fidelity and courage of an English gentleman, he had clung undismayed to the last beam of that enormous wreck." Here again there was applause.

Mr. Slade, on behalf of Mr. Owen, pursued a similar line of defence, viz., that his client being nothing more than a shareholder from 1849 to 1855, was not in a position to prevent any frauds that might have been committed.

Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., followed on behalf of Humphrey Brown, and acknowledged that he had to perform a somewhat difficult task. He had at the outset to admit that Mr. Brown had availed himself of the resources of the bank to a large extent; and he was aware that there was a strong prejudice in the public mind against his client. But he contended that the bank was at all times amply secured for the amount of Mr. Brown's debt. His client had joined the bank with the modest fortune of 20,000*l*., and was a person highly honoured in his native town. The prosecution had not produced a tittle of evidence to prove that Mr. Brown had been guilty of the crime with which he was charged.

Mr. Laurence, for Mr. McLeod, called attention to the fact that his client was the largest shareholder in the bank, and therefore, had he conspired to defraud the public, he would have been conspiring to defraud himself as well. Mr. Cameron was his father-in-law; and was it surprising that he should believe the assertions of that gentleman with respect to the concern?

Mr. Digby Seymour, on the part of Mr. Cameron, denied that his client was the promoter of the bank, but said that the business was introduced to him, as a parliamentary agent, by Mr. Macgregor, and he ultimately became general manager. "Because the Act of Parliament would not allow a director to be general manager, his client objected to keep that office, and he snubbed when offering any suggestion, instead of having a seat and vote at the board. Mr. Cameron, on leaving his own business to join the bank, had given up a great deal of his private interests, and the care and anxiety he had experienced in the performance of his duties had placed an additional ten years on his age." The learned counsel then referred to the charge against Cameron of introducing the Scotch system of banking, saying that the chief point in it is that it provides for the safety of the bank in case of a large run. He also defended the conduct of Cameron in introducing the cash credit system; and, as to his conduct with regard to the bad debt fund, he contended it was kept in accordance with the rules laid down in all important commercial undertakings. Finally, he appealed to the jury to remember mercy in the midst of judgment. Here applause once more broke forth. Several witnesses were then examined for the defence, and the court adjourned at a quarter past five.

Sir Frederick Thesiger having retired from the case on Tuesday, owing to his elevation to the Lord Chancellorship of the new Government (on which honour Lord Campbell highly complimented him), Mr. Atherton, yesterday, as the second and now leading counsel, replied for the Crown on the whole case; after which, the court adjourned. It is anticipated that the trial will be concluded to-day.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

COAST DEFENCES.—The Royal carriage department, under the superintendence of Colonel Tulloch, R.A., is actively engaged in forwarding the immediate execution

of the outstanding orders for coast defences, which have been unavoidably allowed to fall into arrear. The artificers in that department are therefore ordered to be employed over hours for that purpose, so as to turn out, in addition to the allotted number of gun-carriages, platforms, &c., one complete battery per week.

SHIPWRECK.—The brig John and James, of Whitby, coal-laden, and bound to Boulogne, foundered in the night of the 14th inst. between Boulogne and Calais, having previously touched on the rocks of Cape Blanc Nez. The master, his wife, and four seamen got into the boat, and were soon afterwards picked up by another English vessel, and landed at Boulogne.

LOSS OF THE SHIP DUKE OF PORTLAND BY FIRE.—This ship, 600 tons burden, Captain Harden, was totally destroyed by fire while on her outward passage to Singapore from Ardrossan, owing, it is supposed, to the spontaneous combustion of coals.

A SOLDIER DEGRADED.—A gunner of the Royal Artillery was drummed out of her Majesty's service on Monday morning at Woolwich. During a period of barely three years' service, he has been guilty of various military crimes, for which he has been twice imprisoned, the two incarcerations spreading over the greater part of the time since he has enlisted. On the day of his liberation from his last confinement, he stole a comrade's great-coat, and sold his own coat and boots. Being found guilty by a court-martial, he received fifty lashes, and, on being dismissed from the hospital, was drummed out with the usual marks of ignominy.

THE LASH.—A case of flogging has occurred on board the Wellesley, 72, ordinary guard-ship at Chatham. The man had been guilty of disobedience of orders, and he received thirty-six lashes with great fortitude. This is the first case of flogging on board a man-of-war which has taken place in Chatham for many years.—With respect to the flogging case at Newcastle, to which we referred last week, a letter has been written to Mr. John Bright, M.P., by a gentleman residing on the spot. This letter has been transmitted by Mr. Bright to the *Morning Star*, and contains the following statements:—"The name of the regiment is the 5th Fusiliers; the commanding officer, Colonel Kirkland; the name of the soldier, Mullens; his offence, that of refusing to be stripped, and striking the sergeant. He was tried and sentenced by a party of officers selected by the colonel, and the sentence was sent to Sir Harry Smith, who confirmed it. The date of his punishment, the 27th ult. He was removed to Weedon on the 11th inst. I think there is no truth in the statement that the lashes of the 'cat' were loaded with lead or steel. It appears, however, that the flogging was very severe, and it is described as being 'horrible.'"

STORM OFF THE EAST COAST.—The east coast was visited by a heavy gale of wind on Monday, during which a brig was wrecked on the Spanish Battery Rocks at Tynemouth-point. The crew were rescued, but the vessel went to pieces.

THE STEAM FLEET in reserve at Portsmouth is being got ready for equipment at the shortest notice. The ships composing it, especially the line-of-battle-ships, are being tried almost daily, and the staff of the steam reserve are indefatigably employed in getting the ships' machinery into reliable working order. The Duke of Wellington, *Cæsar*, *Victor Emmanuel*, and *Algiers*, are the most forward, and are expected to be the next large ships commissioned. The gunboats at Haslar are also under course of overhaul.

BARRACK COOKERY.—With a desire of contributing to the comforts of the soldiers' mess, and of remedying the acknowledged evils produced by the present monotonous system of barrack cookery, Major-General Sir W. F. Williams, Commandant of Woolwich Garrison, has introduced the newly-invented apparatus brought forward by Captain Grant, late of the Royal Artillery. By this stove, frying, stewing, baking, and boiling, can be performed.

WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.—A considerable reduction in the factory establishment of Woolwich Dockyard has been ordered to meet the reduced scale of expenditure voted for that department of the naval service. Forty of the factory labourers have consequently received notices of dismissal.

THE HON. RANDOLPH CAPEL, of H.M.S. Cumberland, Flag-Lieutenant to Vice-Admiral Wallis, died of yellow fever at Rio de la Plata on Christmas-eve. This gallant and lamented young officer had served with distinction in the Naval Brigade before Sebastopol.

COLONEL GRANT.—The Queen has been pleased to command that Colonel James Hope Grant, K.C.B., of the 9th Lancers, be promoted to the rank of Major-General in the army, in consequence of his eminent services in command of the Cavalry Division at the siege of Delhi.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The only news of interest this week in connexion with the Court is that which is also connected with the resignation of the Palmerston and the appointment of the Derby Ministry. The particulars of this Governmental change will be found in another column.

THE RIGHT HON. W. G. HATYER has accepted the offer of a baronetcy, which Lord Palmerston expressed his desire to recommend her Majesty to bestow on him.

The Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Wellington, and the Earl of Harrowby will have the vacant Garters.

GREENLAND WHALE FISHERY.—The small town of Peterhead, on the east coast of Scotland, this year sends twenty-eight vessels to the Greenland seal and whale fishery, involving a capital of 200,000*l.*, and employing 1500 men. The neighbouring town of Fraserburgh sends four ships to the same fishery, two of which are managed on temperance principles.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—The negotiation for the sale of the notorious Welsh mines, upon which the British Bank spent 84,000*l.*, has been concluded. The assignees have only been able to obtain 6000*l.* for them.

THE WEATHER.—The winter now drawing to a close seems to have been a remarkably cold one in most parts of the world. It will be seen in another column of this paper that the temperature has been most severe in sunny Constantinople; and the captain of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamship *Indus*, just arrived from the East, reports that, on the outward voyage, there was very cold weather at Malta, where there had been a slight fall of snow, and that much snow was observed on the mountains of Africa. There had also been a fall of snow at Cairo, to the great astonishment of the inhabitants, who had never seen such a thing there before.

ILLEGITIMACY IN SCOTLAND.—The Registrar-General's Social Statistics just published show the startling fact that, while in Edinburgh and Glasgow the proportion of illegitimate children born in those cities is seven per cent. of the total births, it is thirteen per cent. in Dundee, Perth, and Aberdeen. The percentage is only five in London.

THE STRAITS OF NEGROPONT.—The works undertaken by the Greek Government for the purpose of deepening the straits which separate the island of Euboea (Negropont) from Boeotia have progressed so far that vessels drawing about fourteen feet of water may pass through at any time.

MR. HENRY BRADBURY.—The King of Sweden has presented a gold medal of merit to Mr. Henry Bradbury, in acknowledgment of his successful application of the art of nature printing.

THE LATE SIR HENRY BISHOP.—The children of the late Sir Henry Bishop, who were recently said to be in great distress, are, it appears from a letter from a brother of Lady Bishop, not the immediate offspring but the grandchildren of the composer. The father—who was a confidential clerk in the office of the present Lord Mayor—died recently at the age of forty-eight, leaving a widow and five young children unprovided for. The family of the musician by his second wife are comfortably supported by their mother out of the funds liberally bestowed by the public, immediately after the death of Sir Henry.

THE REV. DR. BULL, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, died on Sunday morning, after a long illness, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

MR. BATES, of the felon firm of Strahan, Paul, and Bates, has been set at liberty in consideration of the circumstances which palliated his guilt.

A ROYAL PRESENT FROM PRUSSIA.—Mr. Vincent Williams, R.N., commanding officer of the Admiralty yacht *Banshee*, has received a magnificent gold ring from Berlin, through the medium of the British Consul at Antwerp, in testimony of the courtesy which the Royal Princes of Prussia were anxious to acknowledge as having experienced on board the *Banshee* on the occasion of their late visit to England. The testimonial contains, on a small blue enamelled ground, three clusters of brilliant representing the rose, shamrock, and thistle, surrounded by a garland of small cut diamonds of the purest water.

MR. STEPHENS'S BANKRUPTCY.—The creditors of this gentleman have not succeeded in apprehending him upon the warrant of the Sheriff Substitute of Midlothian. In his absence his agent, Mr. J. F. Wilkie, was on Tuesday examined before the Sheriff at Edinburgh on various matters connected with the bankrupt estate. The proceedings, however, were conducted in private.

THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW.—Captain R. P. Anderson, 25th Bengal Native Infantry, who commanded one of the outposts during the whole of the siege of Lucknow, has safely arrived in London. His interesting narrative of the siege is now in Messrs. Thacker and Co.'s hands for publication, and is expected to be ready in time for the next mail steamer for India.—Three of the surviving defenders of Lucknow have reached England.—Mr. C. W. Campbell, of the 71st Regiment, Dr. M'Farlane, of the Artillery, and Mr. L. E. Rees. The latter gentleman, formerly attached to one of the colleges in India, is a Calcutta merchant, who unexpectedly found himself involved in the meshes of the siege, and having been by force of circumstances obliged to take a part in the defence, he recorded from time to time the interesting events in which he took part, and those which passed before him. We understand that Mr. Rees's journal will be immediately published.

LEWIS SNEYD, M.A., F.G.S., Warden of All Souls', Oxford, died on Sunday night in his seventieth year. He had held the wardenship more than thirty years. In politics he was a Liberal Conservative, and a supporter of Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Gladstone.

A FUGITIVE SLAVE IN LIVERPOOL.—A black man is at present in Liverpool, who arrived from New Orleans, stowed away in the hold of a cotton ship. He has been

examined at the police-office, and has given a spiteous narrative of his ill-usage in America, of his attempts to escape, of his being hunted and torn by bloodhounds and shot in the hip by a savage overseer, of his ultimate flight, and of the perils he had to encounter on his way to the sea-shore. He was taken on board the American cotton ship *Metropolis* by the coloured seamen, and was hidden away among the bales; but one of the coloured men betrayed him, and he was searched for, but not found. The man exhibited at the police-office the marks the dogs had left upon his legs; and there appears to be no doubt of the truth of his narrative.

REMARKABLE ESCAPE.—A London detective police-officer was a few days ago conveying a ticket-of-leave man from Lockerbie, in Scotland, to the metropolis, by rail. The prisoner requested to be allowed to sit near the window of the carriage. He was allowed to do so; but the officer, while talking with another passenger, heard a noise. Looking round, he saw the ticket-of-leave man in the act of jumping out of window, though the train was progressing with great velocity. The train did not stop until it reached Carlisle, and no train started for Lockerbie until next morning. On the following day, the detective, with various railway and police officials, returned along the line; but nothing was seen of the man. The marks of his leap, however, were plainly visible; two or three stones were spattered with blood, and on one a quantity of hair was observable. The man must have made a flying leap of seven feet from the carriage before he touched the ground, and must then have rolled down a declivity of some eighteen or twenty feet into a ditch. He has since been recaptured in Edinburgh.

SUPERSTITION AND MADNESS.—A man named John Hodgson was charged at the Halifax police-court on Tuesday with having practised as a conjuror. Two young women, Elizabeth Bonny and Ellen Ambler (the latter a teacher in a Sunday-school), went to Hodgson's house paid him money, and were told their fortunes. Ambler was informed that her cards were very bad, and that she would be unfortunate in love unless she read the first chapter of Ruth on getting home, and wished three times. On going back with her companion, Ambler said she felt alarmed, and was afraid of reading the first chapter of Ruth lest the devil should take her. After she got worse, and at length went raving mad. Hodgson was apprehended, and was found to be wearing a belt inscribed with cabalistical emblems. He was sentenced to imprisonment, with hard labour, for three months.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, February 27.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE CAGLIARI.

LORD LYNDEHURST presented a petition on behalf of the two persons arrested on board the Cagliari steamer. It complained of the ill-treatment to which they had been subjected, and by which the health of both had been very greatly impaired.

THE CASE OF AZZOPARDI.

LORD LYNDEHURST said he wished to explain a statement he had made respecting Azzopardi, who, on Monday last, he had stated was hanged. He had since received a letter which stated that the sentence of death had been commuted to transportation, and that he had been sent to Norfolk Island in 1843.

LAW OF LIBEL BILL.

LORD CAMPBELL announced that, "in consequence of certain circumstances," he thought it would be better that the second reading of this bill (fixed for next Monday) should be postponed until a future day.—It was postponed accordingly.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The Marquis of SALISBURY said his noble friend at the head of the Government (Lord Derby) had thought it would be more respectful to the House if he abstained from making the usual ministerial statement until next Monday, and he accordingly moved the adjournment of the House until that day.—The motion was agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The appearance of the Lower House yesterday evening (as well as of the Upper House) was of course greatly changed from what the public have been accustomed to for some years past. The Government supporters and the Oppositionists had changed sides. None of the members of the old or new Ministry were present at first, but Lord Palmerston afterwards arrived, and sat himself down in the cold shadow of the non-official side of the House. The late Attorney-General went, as if by instinct, to his old place, but, soon discovering his mistake, crossed over, amidst much laughter.

NEW WRITS.

On the motion of Sir W. JOLLIFFE, the following new writs were ordered:—For Buckinghamshire, in the room of Mr. Disraeli, who has accepted the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer; for Kings Lynn, in the room of Lord

Stanley; for the University of Cambridge, in the room of Mr. Walpole—who have been appointed Secretaries of State; for Droitwich, in the room of Sir John Pakington, who has accepted the office of First Lord of the Admiralty; for Huntingdon, in the room of General Peel, appointed Secretary for War; for the county of Oxford, in the room of Mr. Henley, appointed President of the Board of Trade; for the North Division of the county of Wilts, in the room of Mr. Sotheron Estcourt, appointed President of the Poor Law Board; for the Northern Division of Stafford, in the room of Mr. Adelerley, appointed Vice-President of the Committee of Education; for Stamford, in the room of Sir Frederick Thesiger, appointed Lord Chancellor; for the Eastern Division of Suffolk, in the room of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, appointed Attorney-General; for Belfast, in the room of Mr. Cairns, appointed Solicitor-General; for the northern division of Leicester, in the room of Lord John Manners, appointed First Commissioner of Works; for the southern division of Salop, in the room of Viscount Newport, appointed Vice-Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household; for the County of Dublin, in the room of Captain T. E. Taylor, appointed one of the Lords of the Treasury; for Bridgenorth, in the room of Mr. Whitmore, appointed one of the Lords of the Treasury; for Cockermouth, in the room of Lord Naas, appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland; for the County of Tyrone, in the room of Lord Claude Hamilton, appointed Treasurer of her Majesty's Household; in the room of Colonel Forester, appointed Comptroller of her Majesty's Household.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

Sir W. JOLLIFFE, on behalf of the new Ministers, said it was the desire of Lord Derby that the House should meet again on Monday for the despatch of business, and that he (Sir W. Jolliffe) should then ask the House to adjourn to the following Friday week, the 12th of March.—Sir RICHARD BETHELL took the opportunity to defend the opinions he had already expressed relative to the Alien Laws.—Mr. WARREN dissented from this view, and Mr. WHITESIDE coincided with the opinion of Lord Campbell.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES gave notice that he should, on that day fortnight, bring under the notice of the House the present passport regulations.

Mr. SPOONER gave notice of his annual Maynooth motion, to come on shortly after Easter.

EAST INDIA LOAN BILL.

After a short conversation, the further consideration of this bill was postponed, on the opposition of the hon. member for Devonport (Sir ERSKINE PERRY) on the ground that the House had had no time to discuss the principle of the bill. It was adjourned till Monday, to ascertain the views of the present Government.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

HAVELOCK AND HAYTER.

Mr. Hayter is made a Baronet by Lord Palmerston. This is an act of gratitude, says the organ of the late Ministry. The same honour is accorded to Havelock and to Hayter, remarks the *Morning Star*. If the one be an act of Ministerial gratitude, the other was an act of tardy concession to public gratitude. Such an acknowledgment from the minister of corruption to the doer of the dirty work is handsome, and well deserved, no doubt; but where is the monumental tribute to the remains of poor Coppock? Quoth Palmerston—"If you seek his monument, look around at the Liberal benches."

TRIAL OF ORSINI AND HIS COLLEAGUES.

The trial of Orsini and his colleagues commenced on Thursday morning, before the Court of Assizes of the Seine, M. Delangle presiding. The court was crowded to excess, and the anxiety to obtain admission was extreme. The early part of the day was taken up with the reading of the indictment, which is of great length. Gossu denied any participation in the act. He only knew of it at the last moment. Rudio confessed everything. He threw one bomb. He incriminated the rest of the prisoners. Orsini confirmed his former account, and accepted the full responsibility of the part he had taken in the affair. He confessed he wanted to kill the Emperor, and he was ready to die. He never confided his intention to Mr. Allsop. M. Bernard brought the bombs to Brussels, but did not know for what purpose they were intended. He would not say anything as to the other prisoners. Pierri denied all participation in the conspiracy until the day the attempt was made, and then repented. Mr. Taylor, of Birmingham, did not answer to his name. Everything passed off calmly.

THE REV. GEORGE E. L. COTTON, Master of Marlborough College, has been appointed to the Bishopric of Calcutta, vacant by the death of the late Dr. Wilson.

FATAL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—An explosion took place on Thursday in Powell's Colliery at Mountain Ash, near Merthyr. Nineteen persons have perished.

MADEIRAINE SMITH, the young lady accused of poisoning L'Angelier, has arrived at Ballarat.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. Several communications unavoidably stand over. No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DE ARNOLD.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

THE new Government is an interregnum; Lord DERBY has proved himself an impossible Premier, he has accepted the post as chief commissioner of a Board to administer the affairs of the British Empire until the next constitutional Cabinet can be formed. The Board comprises men of ability and character, but they are so placed as to be debarred from distinguishing themselves or serving their country according to their capacity, and in obedience to the unanimous wishes of the country. Some of them may do some good while they are in power; but unless they negative the character which the same Government left behind it in 1852, and acquire entirely new attributes, they can but repeat the failure of that year.

In general terms we may say that it is the Cabinet of 1852 called forth again, but it is called forth under totally altered circumstances. 1852 was a year of profound peace. The break-up of parties consequent upon the transformation of the Tories into Free-traders, and carried out by the perplexities of the Liberal party, had ended in converting the House of Commons into a set of distinct minorities, no one of which could command power. Almost all the greatest measures for which we had been calling for many years had been carried; the country was fatigued after the exertions of more than one generation. Excepting the unenfranchised classes, who had not yet learned the way to give effect to their just claims, there was no very great and absolute demand for measures; the period was negative; the Tories had clung together by the force of tradition; they presented the largest number of men, there was nothing for them to do in office, and they entered for that purpose. They accepted 'power' merely to prevent the doing of things which were inconsistent, not with living convictions, but with their defunct opinions. In fact, they entered office to bury the last remaining principle that distinguished them from the rest of English politicians—Protection—and they did bury it. On re-entering now, however, they find an exceedingly complicated state of foreign affairs—our nearest ally half converted into an enemy; our most important dependency shaken by a general mutiny; our tea field threatening to separate itself from us by a general mutiny of the Chinese Empire against the English merchantmen; and at home a state of expectancy for measures not yet forthcoming, which, under the imperial régime of France, would perhaps be called 'culpable expectancy.' Lord DERBY and Mr. DISRAELI, therefore, resume office not at a period of political satiety and

weariness, but at a period of general expectation.

It is a time to try any Ministry, and we shall be disposed to make every allowance for that which has been brought into office by an accidental combination without any real strength for keeping itself there. If we find individual ability in the Cabinet, we do not find it collectively. Mr. WALPOLE will probably make a good Home Secretary, but how will he manage the police business when Lord MALMESBURY, as Foreign Secretary, becomes agent in this country for LOUIS NAPOLEON, that potentate being under a paroxysm of alarm and irritation against our institutions and our guests? How will he manage public-houses through Mr. HARDY, his Under-Secretary? Sir JOHN PAKINGTON is popular in the Colonies, and, as Home Secretary, he might push the subject of education; but he helped to get us into hot water with the United States by annexing Rumania with the British Empire; Lord DERBY and Mr. DISRAELI cannot consistently let him educate; and so the man who is too good for home politics is sent to sea—made First Lord of the Admiralty, in order, we suppose, that he may command the Channel fleet should Lord MALMESBURY's friend take it into his head to visit the Lord Warden at Dover! Lord ELLENBOROUGH understands the border tribes of India, state ceremonies in the Oriental fashion, and the way to encourage Jack Sepoy; he has some peculiar notions about the proper mode of dispossessing the East India Company, and Lord DERBY believes him to be a sublime authority in Indian matters. He is a man whose temperament would make him issue edicts—we have yet to see what he can do with Parliamentary bills. Sir FREDERICK THESIGER is a powerful Nisi Prius lawyer; but he is placed at the head of Equity and the Peers. The Colonial Department, vacant by the execution of Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, is accepted by Lord STANLEY; but how can he act with Lord DERBY? Perhaps the most appropriate appointment is that of Lord JOHN MANNERS as Chief Commissioner of Public Works, to establish cricket-grounds in the City and elsewhere.

But the difficulty is to know how these most respectable gentlemen will manage collectively; they must handle questions à la DERBY, and how can that be contrived? Our relations with France must be managed under further conditions. Lord DERBY cannot do as Lord PALMERSTON proposed, Lord MALMESBURY cannot take the independent position that Lord JOHN RUSSELL would; they cannot simply take up the dropped bill, even if the forms of Parliament should allow it; but yet they must keep peace with France. They must maintain the independence of England, while LOUIS NAPOLEON knows that he has them on the hip, and they do not enjoy the confidence of the English people. Whatever ability Lord ELLENBOROUGH may show in the Board of Control, sent over to Calcutta, there is still a very important Indian department filled by a worthy gentleman who is not regarded as the CHATHAM of the war department—General PEELE. A measure that has been forgotten in the turmoil of political excitement is the Bank Charter question, which was to be debated on the question whether the Charter should be continued, with or without modification? The question is now to be thrown as a plaything in the hands of Mr. DISRAELI. And, above all, what will the English public do for a Reform Bill? It is said that Lord GREY was invited to join the Cabinet, probably for the specific purpose of drafting the Reform Bill, since of all living politicians he is that happy wight who has conceived the possibility of reform reduced

to the smallest dimensions. Most Ministers can claim to be judged by their acts; but the new Government will require much greater allowances.

The grand difficulty with which it has to contend is an essential mistake in the very organization of the party. It is a party without any *raison d'être*. It has not a political principle to rally to. There is not a man who could be placed in any of the offices of domestic administration, scarcely a man that could enter the Cabinet at all, who would be prepared at this day to avow the principles of the Tory. The new-fangled substitute 'Conservative' signifies nothing at all. Lord GREY, the 'Whig,' is truly more reactionary than Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, the quondam 'Tory.' Mr. GLADSTONE, 'Conservative' enough in some things, is revolutionary in others. Lord DERBY himself has perhaps no principle, except that of *not* being 'Liberal'; while Mr. DISRAELI's chief aim is to show that the Conservatives are a party who reconcile the 'Liberalism of the morrow to the Toryism of the eve.' There is, in fact, nothing that holds the party together; except some adhesion to the personal recollections of a past that has entirely disappeared. It is this, the most unsubstantial of all political hallucinations, which makes men like WALPOLE, PAKINGTON, THESIGER, STANLEY, and KELLY consent to serve under those who are their inferiors intellectually, politically, and practically. The line, therefore, which the new Ministry must take in order to keep itself going, must be one of incessant difficulty. This action involves almost a contradiction in terms; and if the Government can but manage to sustain the credit of the country abroad, we must consider it to have acquitted itself well. It is an interim Ministry, holding office until a Government really representing the country can be found.

LORD PALMERSTON'S FALL.

THE intrigue to restore Lord PALMERSTON is one at which no reasoning politician can connive. After sending to Lord COWLEY for a character, which arrived too late, the fallen Minister, believing himself essential, hopes to be recalled by universal acclamation, as the statesman who, though he may have been misunderstood on a particular point, has uniformly administered affairs at home with vigour, and sustained the honour of the country abroad. Far too liberal applause is claimed for him in both characters. His domestic legislation has been signalized by an immoderate proportion of failures, while his foreign policy has been marked by undignified inconsistency, by a practice of wheeling the powerful and bullying the weak. That he brought the Russian war to a conclusion is a fact upon which an enormous exaggeration of praise has been founded; for the truth is that Lord PALMERSTON inherited a work, the more difficult part of which had been performed. Lord ABERDEEN, the Duke of NEWCASTLE, and their colleagues, had prepared the path for him, had borne the heat and burden of the day, had overcome difficulties and defects accumulated by forty years of peace and rust, and left him with a renovated army, and an organization much improved, to finish the taking of Sebastopol. In the Baltic he did nothing more than had been done by his predecessors, and when a treaty was signed it was beset with doubtful complications. We believe that when the history of British diplomacy from 1854 to 1856 shall be written, it will be found that Lord JOHN RUSSELL supported British interests more worthily at Vienna than Lord CLARENDON did afterwards at Paris. All

Lord PALMERSTON's attempts to make capital out of the Isle of Serpents squabble are neutralized by the circumstance that he has not guaranteed the Black Sea against Russian supremacy, that Russia is filling the ports on the eastern coast with merchant vessels manned by men-of-war crews, that the Euxine has been a Russian base of operations against the Chechnian territories along the Caucasus. Lord PALMERSTON drifted into the war with his friends; but he was personally responsible for having been dragged off the field by the French Government, and cajoled at the Conferences of Paris. There, moreover, he suffered his plenipotentiary to hold his most ignominious peace on the liberty of the press and of public discussion; instead of sustaining, by the moral example of a great and free nation, the menaced independence of the Swiss and Belgians, he allowed them to endure the entire weight of French Imperial pressure. To Sardinia he made no return for her campaign in the Crimea, leaving Austria and France free to pursue whatever policy the jealousies or the alarms of their sovereigns dictated. The conduct of the late Government towards Naples was inexpressibly degrading to the national character. First, in concert with France, they blustered about intervention, and withdrew their representative; then, not being able to agree with LOUIS NAPOLEON, they stood off from the subject altogether, and were taunted by every absolutist journal in Europe; lastly, they allowed two Englishmen to be captured on the open sea, to be incarcerated for months without trial, and to be maltreated until one of them lost his health and the other his senses. This is Lord PALMERSTON's highest title to praise as a minister who asserts the power and reputation of his country.

On the contrary, he has sacrificed it. Intensely hostile to any other form of liberty than that which comprises a crown, a supreme aristocracy, and a limited third estate, he regarded the French Republic with an evil eye. But, inimical to the ORLEANS dynasty, he was favourable to the usurpation which avenged him upon the ex-royal family of France, and was the first English statesman to approve of the Coup d'Etat. This he did, not with reserve, but eagerly and in terms of precipitate congratulation. Ever since, he has been the diplomatic follower of LOUIS NAPOLEON; he accepted his lead in the war with Russia; he received from him the signal of peace. Finally, he yielded to him upon a question vitally affecting the national honour, in a way by which the national honour was disgracefully compromised. In the story of this transaction we do not find a single redeeming incident. M. WALEWSKI wrote an aggressive, false, and insulting despatch, which remained officially unanswered. The *Moniteur* published a series of licentious and ruffianly military addresses directed against England, and not a word of protest was uttered by the Minister who, in 1850, was a Roman citizen, as Sir ROBERT PEEL reminds us. Then came the Conspiracy Bill. "That was his answer to M. WALEWSKI's despatch," Mr. GLADSTONE said, and it was a concession in reply to a threat. Smitten thus in the very front and head of his prestige as a public man, censured by the House of Commons which had once professed itself 'proud of him,' for having neglected to uphold the dignity of Great Britain, with JOHN BRIGHT and Mr. MILNER GIBSON, whom last year he expelled from Parliament, this year expelling him from office, Lord PALMERSTON hopes to return, after allowing Lord DERBY to disport himself for a few weeks in Downing-street with the mystical DISRAELI and *mon cher* MALMESBURY.

Lord PALMERSTON sent a message to the French Emperor to the effect that the British public had been offended, and that something must be done to make things pleasant. A cold and prevaricating apology was returned, for publication in England, but for suppression in France. This did not seem to suffice. The WALEWSKI despatch had not been answered, and condemnation fell upon the Premier. He had still a card, however, for although it was necessary to resign, in formal deference to a majority, he believed that any other than a PALMERSTON Government was an absurdity, and not a few of his friends still affect this opinion. Consequently, Lord COWLEY was instructed to state his view of the matter, and the House of Commons having censured Lord PALMERSTON, is now censured by the British Ambassador at the Court of Paris. Concerning the abject drivell of Lord COWLEY's despatch to Lord CLARENDON we will not say a word. But what result did he suppose would arise from the explanation that, having left M. WALEWSKI's insolence unrebuted, Lord PALMERSTON had transmitted a few private hints to the French Emperor, warning him at the same time that any enactment which could be introduced into Parliament must be altogether inoperative? It distinctly appears from this that the Conspiracy Bill was designed as a formal apology from Great Britain for the freedom of her institutions. The PALMERSTON Ministry had already apologized for the liberty of the press; it now treated the liberty of the subject as a necessary evil.

The House of Commons feels the dismissal of Lord PALMERSTON as a release. His arrogance, his levity, had wearied all except his own personal following. He was an Obstructive in disguise, as Whigs of his stamp usually are, when on the Treasury bench. He had attempted to drive Parliament before him, instead of leading it. He had been a 'punishing' State jockey; he had introduced into domestic government and into the Legislature all the trickery of a hack diplomatist, and, although we have condemned the policy favoured by some Liberals, of rewarding their enemies to punish the short-comings of their friends, we prefer to pass through the ordeal of a temporary Tory Administration to retaining Lord PALMERSTON in power. Still worse would it be to bring him in again through a gap in the Conservative ranks. Offensive before, he would then be insufferable. His ascendancy would be the nightmare of the House, and, as he affected on Monday last to slip off the Government like a glove, he would resume it as its only possible and rightful proprietor. He is dead, and must be, decently or indecently, buried. We have had more than enough of a House of Commons browbeaten by a brazen Minister, and of a Liberal party duped, bewildered, and degraded.

THE SEIZURE OF THE CAGLIARI.

A VERY serious question of maritime law has been raised by the capture of the Cagliari, and we publish an account of the case as it stands, some of the most important points relating to the action assumed by the Government of Piedmont not having been precisely stated elsewhere.

The steamboat Cagliari, the property of Messrs. RUBATTINO and Company, sailed from Genoa last spring, upon its periodical voyage to Cagliari, in the island of Sardinia, and to Tunis. Not many hours had elapsed before twenty-five out of the thirty-two passengers rose upon the captain and crew, and made themselves masters of the vessel. This accomplished, they sailed to Ponza, and afterwards to Sapri. There they set at liberty the

captain, SITZIA, who, upon recovering his liberty, sailed for Naples in the Cagliari, with the intention of informing the Sardinian consul of all that had occurred.

Before the voyage was completed, two Neapolitan men-of-war, the Tancredi and the Ettore Fieramosca, captured the steamboat and carried her to Naples.

Now, the Cagliari was captured upon the high seas, about thirty miles from Salerno, and twelve miles from the small creeks of Capri—that is to say, on the free sea, over which no power has jurisdiction, except over its own subjects. It is proved that the vessel was no longer in the violent occupation of the rebels, and that none of them remained on board. These facts have been absolutely demonstrated by legal evidence, and are even admitted by the Neapolitan Government. Therefore, it cannot be disputed that the Cagliari was illegally captured. Nothing could have justified the seizure on the principle of public right unless it had been presumptive proof that the vessel was a pirate. Now, the Cagliari had a registered captain, a certificate of nationality, and regular ship's papers, and was furthermore protected by her national flag. She was engaged in no act of piracy. She had sailed from Genoa, on her passage to Cagliari and Tunis, in accordance with a published announcement, upon one of the periodical dates advertised by her owners. In point of fact, she had been chartered as a Royal mail-packet between the Italian continent and the Island of Sardinia. All on board was *en règle* when the Neapolitan frigates made prize of the Cagliari.

The Neapolitan Admiralty Board appears to argue that the Cagliari was an enemy to the Neapolitan state, but this assumption rests upon not one particle of evidence. She belonged to a friendly power; by the flag of that power she was protected. That she had been for a few hours in the possession of a few insurgents, who had laid violent hands upon her captain and crew, by no means created a state of war which, in fact, can only exist between recognised governments. The attempt of PISACANE was the act of a conspirator with a few associates, engaged in a desperate enterprise, and as such in defiance of Piedmontese as of Neapolitan law, and the affairs of Ponza and Sapri came under the ordinary enactments against rebellion, under the authority of which they might have been legitimately punished, according to the principle observed in the case of the ship Carlo Alberto, which, in the month of April, 1832, carried the Duchesse DE BERRI to France, and was afterwards captured, not on free sea, but in the French port La Ciotat.

The offences which led to the capture of the Cagliari were offences triable by the ordinary courts of justice, but the Neapolitan Government, in order to secure the sequestration of the vessel, passed it over for judgment to the Special Court of Prize and Wreck, whereas the steamer could be neither captured nor retained legally as a prize. The Piedmontese Government will not acknowledge, nor should any maritime government admit, the right, on the part of a man-of-war, of capturing a foreign merchantman, unless it be caught in the very act of piracy, which, as we have shown, was not the case with the Cagliari. One of the great arguments of the Neapolitan Government is, we are informed, that the two men-of-war had followed the steamer into the free sea before they captured her. They had, no doubt, a right to bring her to, and examine her papers on the high sea, but having discovered all on board to be *en règle*, they were bound to set her at liberty. At all events, even if they were excusable in taking her to Naples, the subsequent act of sequestration was in direct vio-

lation of the universal maritime code of the world.

A great principle of international and maritime right is involved in this question, and Great Britain should be the last power to abandon Piedmont in the assertion of her undoubted claims. Lord PALMERSTON, we are aware, treated the affair with indifference, influenced, as usual, by the refusal of LOUIS NAPOLEON to engage at present in any further quarrels with Naples. We, who have seen two of our innocent countrymen cast into the prison of Salerno, have a direct interest in the matter; but beyond this, we have a national interest in defending the rights of commerce on the high seas. The late Government abandoned Piedmont, but among the earliest interrogations addressed to the new, we trust that one will elicit the views of the Foreign Minister with reference to the piratical seizure by Naples of the Sardinian steamer Cagliari.

THE LIBERAL PARTY.

THE question of the present Ministry is far less interesting than the question of the Ministry which will come next; and all depends upon the distinctness of purpose, the resolution, and independence of the Liberal party. It is the Liberals who have displaced Lord PALMERSTON by putting him to the test of the Liberal principles in a course of action peculiarly important to the independence of the country, and to the advance of Liberal principles generally; but that same party which has displaced one Ministry cannot form another of its own. It is compelled to stand by and see power transferred from the Minister who had failed the Liberals to the Minister who formally opposes them; and we shall find some reasons why the Liberals are unable to form a Cabinet of their own in the circumstances which have brought them to their present position. Ever since it obtained the general political ascendancy in the country, the Liberal party has been misled by deceptive objects. It may be said that one small section of the country, the Whig party, succeeded in its political objects when Lord GREY's Reform Bill was passed; and it has ever since been engaged, not in securing larger political advantages for the people, but in struggling to maintain its own position. Having recovered a quondam ascendancy by the means of the Reform of 1832, it has striven to retain that ascendancy by any device whatsoever. The public expected measures, and measures were always forthcoming; but they were always suffered to drop; and for a long series of years the Liberals were induced to lend their help to this class of manoeuvres by the threat that if they did not keep in the Whigs, they would not 'keep out the Tories.' In later years, the people were induced to aid in keeping out the Tories when there were really no Tories to be kept out—none but a few specimens to be lodged in any archaeological museum. One of the first measures which ought to have followed upon Parliamentary Reform was Free-trade; but certain of our political leaders thought it better to preserve for the country the blessing of their own rule than to risk the loss of office in the emancipation of trade; and thus it happened that they left the great measure to be executed by Sir ROBERT PEEL. In fulfilling a mission to which nature seems almost to have destined him, Sir ROBERT PEEL completely broke down the Tory party. Some fragments of it have retained the name long after they have lost the nature. Some of its leaders also retain the name, in order to retain the title of leaders. They have a capacity for keeping up the exclusive principles of Toryism, at least in form; but they have no capacity to

be leaders in the practical business of the present day; and hence, if they were to recognize the extinction of the Tory party they would be deprived of their leadership. Places in no national party, for example, could be found for Lord DERBY or Mr. DISRAELI.

After the complete confusion of parties in 1852, an opportunity appeared to offer itself of reconstructing a National party by a union of men who have formerly been Conservatives; and since the questions of that day turned upon foreign politics, not bearing very closely on any internal interest, it was not unnatural that a dashing statesman, who was ready to take the burden upon himself, should be allowed to become the Parliamentary leader of the majority. During Lord PALMERSTON's administration, however, a great change has come over the position of the country: one of our most important dependencies is imperilled; and while the desire to carry on progressive reform has been gradually reviving amongst the people, our nearest ally has suddenly assumed an imperious attitude that actually threatens our national independence. Lord PALMERSTON failed to perceive the danger that threatened us in India; he has heretofore disappointed the hopes of the National Reformers; and he was upon the point of submitting our national independence to French dictation; hence his fall. In the meanwhile, however, he had effectually succeeded for a time in substituting for the national objects of a Liberal party the maintenance of Lord PALMERSTON in office; and that is still to be the cry on the reassembling of Parliament for public business.

The genuine Liberals, therefore, will be placed in a position which they have never yet occupied in Parliament. They will, in fact, occupy the position once held by the Radical party, but, it is a Radical party strengthened by a conjunction with the picked men of all parties, since party itself has been cast into a discount. We are well aware that in the majority there are many who have followed the late leader with a growing mistrust: these men will gradually be won back. But, in the meantime, the Liberal party will be standing on one side, witnessing a conflict for office between the false Tories and the false Liberals, each pretending that it represents principles which the one has forgotten and the other has never learned. The Tory party is precluded from satisfying the wants and wishes of the country by the superstitions which still compel a show of homage. The Liberal party is equally deterred because it does not feel the wants and wishes of the people. It will pretend to bring forward Liberal measures, or to pass Tory measures, but the one will be as much Liberal as the other is Tory. A true test would be Lord PALMERSTON's Reform Bill. Let us see that unknown measure! And if indeed it is one that satisfies the country, let him have the support of the Liberal party; for, if he will stand in front of it, there is no reason why its march should be delayed: if he cannot be its General, perhaps he can scarcely be refused the post of its fugleman.

But the Liberals have a clear opportunity before them; they have to watch the measures of the one party and the stratagems of the other in order to protect the interests of the English people; they have to defend the independence of the country against the truckling of the two factions; they have to defend the wealth of the country against being wasted in a competition of open-handedness, by the two factions, for the purchase of public favour: the Liberals have to defend, above all things, the claim of the intelligent

men of their own party to see their opinions carried out by extending the franchise to those who pay the taxes. In every town in the country there is the nucleus of the party, consisting of the most intelligent, active, and influential men. These are so many disunited fragments of the national party, which already possess the most effective strength in the country, and could make it felt if they were only brought together. They do but await a central staff, an efficient leader; and during the present interregnum, it is the special duty of the Liberals in the House of Commons to show that they are the central staff, and that the leader of these real Liberals is prepared, and is allowed, to be the leader for the country.

A PENNYWORTH OF ASSASSINATION.

THE entire English press, 'with one base exception,' is threatened with receiving a quietus from a bare BODKIN, assisted by Messrs. HENRY and JARDINE, of Bow-street. We do not say that all our public writers have been BERNARDS, for it has not yet been satisfactorily shown how that gentleman has inculpated himself at all, but scarcely a single political writer among our contemporaries is safe from attack if a certain Mr. W. E. ADAMS, and his publisher, Mr. EDWARD TRUELOVE, are to be punished for issuing a penny hand-grenade entitled *Tyrannicide: Is it Justifiable?* which is, we may remark, not so entirely weak and wild a production as might be supposed, although we peremptorily dissent from the peculiar opinions of a safely obscure individual who is content to write daggers but use none. Here we have Mr. HENRY saying, 'There is internal evidence as clear as possible showing to whom it alludes,' and arguing upon the continental theory of constructive libel in support of the charge that Mr. TRUELOVE has published a false, malicious, scandalous, and seditious libel against the Emperor of the French, or, as Sir ROBERT PEEL prefers to call him, LOUIS NAPOLEON.

Mr. SLEIGH, who has been very spirited in his defence of his political clients, should cite a number of Frenchmen and Englishmen into the witness-box at the Central Criminal Court and examine them as to the incidents of December, 1851. The *Times* stated, early in the following year, that hundreds of 'murders' had been perpetrated by LOUIS NAPOLEON; but is the *Times* to be prosecuted? Is the *Times* to be prosecuted for saying that a steam of blood rose round the BONAPARTE throne? At all events, we warn our pleasant and chatty contemporary, the *Examiner*, 'well dressed and middle-aged,' like Mr. TRUELOVE, to keep out of the way until this affair has blown over, for it published Mr. WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR's letter, offering a money reward to the family of the man who should stab, shoot, or blow up with grenades, King FERDINAND of Naples. We ourselves are in anticipation of a visit from Mr. FREDERICK WILLIAMSON, detective, for having published the plain history of December, 1851. In fact, every English journal is liable that has not been paid for suppression. We have all been false, malicious, scandalous, and seditious, according to the Treasury, HENRY, and BODKIN code; but where the sedition lies it is difficult to conceive, for the Act of Parliament applies exclusively to 'our Most Gracious Lady the QUEEN, her heirs or successors,' and it may be questioned whether Mr. ADAMS or Mr. TRUELOVE was bound in loyalty to the Emperor of the French. There is, strictly speaking, not a false word in the pamphlet, which, under the amended law, is consequently not libellous. But the indictment charges malice. Precisely the same sort of malice which animated Mr. GLADSTONE when he denounced the despotism of Naples; precisely the malice that impelled M. LOUIS BLANC to make known the horrible treatment inflicted upon the French political prisoners at Cayenne. There is nothing in the penny pamphlet literally untrue, or scandalous, or malignant, so far as the mere statement of facts is concerned. Mr. ADAMS refers to incidents with which every intelligent Frenchman or Englishman is familiar; he is not so audacious as M. WALEWSKI, who officially denounces M. LEDRU ROLLIN as an assassin. Why is not M. LEDRU ROLLIN handed over to Mr. BODKIN, to be led by the neck before Mr. JARDINE and Mr. HENRY? Simply because M. WALEWSKI's despatch contained a 'false, malicious, scandalous' libel.

It has become necessary to watch with the utmost vigilance these proceedings in our courts of justice. Otherwise, Mr. JARDINE may go too far in treating alleged misdemeanour as felony, Mr. HENRY in construing general arguments into personal libels, and Mr. BODKIN in 'hoping that no Government will know its duty so ill' as not to hunt down the antagonists of the French Empire with precipitate severity.

Then comes the question of tyrannicide. We need not repeat our belief that assassination is not to be justified upon any grounds whatever. We will not admire JAEI, or EHUD, BRUTUS, RAVAILLAC, or CHARLOTTE CORDAY. We do not want to see earthly justice executed by HARMODIUS in default of CROMWELL, or by ORSINI in default of the French nation. We may commiserate the desperate self-devotion of MILANO, and recognise the solitary fanaticism of PIANORI; even the captive who escapes by stabbing his guard volunteers a doubtful responsibility. But this is, and ever has been, an open question—one that may be legitimately discussed, and one that has been decided in the negative or in the affirmative by a hundred different controversialists. Now, where is the liberty of debate to end? According to Mr. BODKIN and Mr. HENRY, when LOUIS NAPOLEON is assailed—for the Treasury does not protect the King of NAPLES from unmistakable and undeniable instigations to the assassin. This pamphlet, then, "advocates the propriety of assassination, and, in terms not, indeed, direct, but not to be misunderstood, applies this doctrine to the Emperor of the French." But we have lately received from the ex-Attorney-General a lesson in the art of reasoning. If, said that honourable and learned gentleman (and the Ministers echoed him), M. WALEWSKI writes an unpleasant letter, and immediately afterwards a Bill suggested in that letter is announced by the British Government, it does not follow, by any means, that the one circumstance results from the other. Then, what becomes of Mr. BODKIN's logic? Mr. ADAMS, not having studied the science of allusive and piercing calmness, more powerful than invective, says, "Here is a monster of cruelty, loathsome from the odour of human blood, and the excess of inhuman crime, a TIBERIUS, a CALIGULA, a NERO." Who can this be, says Mr. BODKIN, if not LOUIS NAPOLEON? LOUIS NAPOLEON will be much obliged to him. But, Mr. BODKIN will say, Mr. ADAMS mentions Paris—where FIESCHI exploded his infernal machine;—but then the parallel, he would add, is not complete, for LOUIS PHILIPPE did not massacre the people until the conduits ran, not with claret, as at the English Restoration, but with blood, the BONAPARTE baptism.

We cannot but regard this prosecution as infamous, and as degrading to our courts of justice. We should say that a grand jury would throw out the bill of indictment; but, at all events, it is incredible that a jury will convict Mr. TRUELOVE, especially as M. ZENO SWIETOSLAWSKI is unmo- lested, although he is reported to have declared last Monday, at a public meeting, that 'ORSINI was not an assassin but a patriot.' The Treasury will exert itself in vain if it undertakes to suppress these doctrines by force of law. It only covers itself with ridicule, and brings the police magistrates into contempt. Every Englishman who values his personal liberty or that of the press, will resist an innovation so ludicrous and so detestable; while the Government can do nothing but make a martyr and a popular man of Mr. TRUELOVE, instead of leaving him and Mr. ADAMS to declaim on the duty of tyrannicide on the plea that, in particular cases, killing is not murder but execution. Very few Englishmen think so, but all have a right to think and say so if they please. We are not concerned to say a word in favour of the prudence or propriety, the wisdom or the courage of Mr. W. E. ADAMS's lucubrations, which, we are informed, a well-known publisher in Fleet-street, of unimpeachably 'democratic' opinions, very judiciously declined to publish, in the belief that such a pamphlet at such a moment was neither politic nor courageous, but, on the contrary, calculated to lead—if it led to anything—to most ridiculous charges and conclusions on the part of the French authorities against the British nation. But the folly of dragging into the light of national susceptibility and continental jealousy a penny indiscretion of a TRUELOVE, demands our notice as a straw that shows the direction of the wind. Let us hope that with the new ministry the wind may blow, free but not unfriendly, towards, and not from, Imperial France.

THE IRISH VICE-KING.

ALL parties in Dublin seem to agree in protesting against the removal of the Viceroy. Conservatives and Democrats equally love the tinsel of the Court—one party because it illustrates the divine right of kings, the other because it gives employment—just as in Ephesus the supporters of DIANA were divided into devotees and silversmiths. It is curious enough to find Irish patriotism asserting that this relic of a time when Ireland was held by an English army (the Viceroy has still a military style, and retains aides-de-camp) is essential to the dignity of Ireland. If the Scotch had objected to JAMES I. leaving Edinburgh we could understand the national objection, for in that time the King was a power, and their King was a Scotchman; but the Dublin folk object to give up a Vice-King with nominal power, and that Vice-King an Englishman. Is Dublin so poor that it requires a British Earl to give it dignity and splendour?

One of the Irish arguments is, that the abolition is another measure of centralization. In that light—if it can be truly viewed in that light—the proposal has decided demerits to counterbalance the advantages of removing this mimic Court. There has been too much taking into our own hands of the management of Irish affairs, which are in every way distinct enough from those of England to warrant a distinct administration. Home Office officials, no matter how closely the telegraph and rail may connect Downing-street and Dublin, are overburdened enough without the additional trouble of managing Irish business, and if our overworked House of Commons could relegate to Dublin some of its Irish local affairs, it would be a real boon. Indeed, it is questionable whether O'CONNELL would not have won a real and very practical Repeal if he had devoted himself to showing Englishmen how a local Parliament in Dublin would save our members many unintelligible debates and much wearisome committee work. In this view, any transfer of the Viceroyalty, if understood as a removal of the Chief Secretary's work to the Home Office, would be objectionable. But we do not so understand Mr. ROEBUCK's motion. His intent, we take it, is simply to remove the representative of royalty, not to absorb the separate administration. The Chief Secretary and his staff would remain doing exactly the same kind of work as at present, excepting the appearance at levees and the dancing attendance at Viceroyal balls. For instance, there is an Irish Treasury: nominally the Paymaster of Civil Services Office. It is retained clearly for purposes of administration, and not in deference to any popular feeling, for, owing to its obscurity of work, its removal would be scarcely known in Dublin. When the Treasury shows no desire to absorb this Irish branch of itself, why should the Home Office wish to absorb the office that would do its work for it in Ireland, and with the increased facility acquired through local knowledge? If, however, we are wrong, if Mr. ROEBUCK or the English Government contemplate a centralization of work in Downing-street, then the Dublin citizens are quite right in raising a loud protest, and if the protest is put forward without exaggeration, they will find it echoed in England.

The argument that the Viceroyalty is useful to the tradesmen of Dublin we may dismiss with a smile. The day is passed for getting up pageants to put money into the pockets of any tradesmen in any town. The theory of protection to certain sets of workers is too old for the latter half of the nineteenth century. Some time ago the laceworkers of England suffered a terrible loss owing to the new regulation as to military tunics; some twenty thousand persons were thrown out of employment. No reasonable Englishman proposed the retention of the lace on behalf of the women employed in its manufacture, and yet the Dublin tradesmen expect that a tinsel Court should be kept up for their profit.

If it were true that the Viceroy and his Court gave a good tone to the society of Dublin (as some people say), one might indulge a little sentimental regret at any Act of Parliament that would 'eclipse the harmless gaiety' of Dublin. But those who know Dublin society, doubt very much whether the removal of the Viceroy would cast any gloom over the dinner parties in Merrion-square, or the pleasant dances in Rathmines. True, Lord CARLISLE is an excellent dancer; his polking is said, 'on authority,' to be faultless, and his schottische has caused a sensation in Stephen's-green. The bright-eyed girls of Dublin may 'shed some natural tears' at losing the middle-aged ADONIS of the

Whigs, but even were he unreplaced by EVELYN-ROUN, famous at the billiard-table and in mock chivalry, they would surely not refuse to be comforted. People who take a more serious view of Dublin society hold, and not unreasonably, that the little Court is productive of a great deal of littleness. The Irish, with their many virtues, have an especial Irish fault—the sacrifices of home comfort for appearances, and this fault has been encouraged by the presence of a Court which gave an excellent opportunity for display. It is natural for the wealthy aristocracy of England to spend their mornings at a Drawing-room or Levee, and their evenings at a Court ball; but there is no wealthy aristocracy in Dublin. Not a single Irish nobleman resides for three months in the year in Dublin; it is not the resort in the season of the rich Irish gentry, as London is of the English country magnates; and, with the exception of Lord CHARLEMONT, the Duke of LEINSTER, and perhaps one or two more, no Irish nobleman retains a town house in the Irish metropolis. The Court, therefore, is chiefly attended by the military officers and professional men—and we can easily understand that the jealousies, and precedences, and ceremonies of a little Court are not favourable to pleasant society among the wives and daughters of hard-working professional men. We cannot well imagine our own leaders of the bar crowding and pushing, and sending their daughters to crowd and push, at the levee of Lord SALISBURY, who happens to be Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex. If Lord SALISBURY established such a levee, we should be somewhat amazed to see him receive our sisters and sweethearts by kissing them on the cheek; and we can share the laughter of the House of Lords, when they were asked to imagine Lord CARDIGAN going through that operation with four or five score of ladies, from the widow of fifty to the damsel of fifteen.

The most sensible observers of society in Dublin consider that there would be an immediate improvement were the Court removed. The men of science and of professional eminence would then take natural rank, and the *entrée* at the Castle, accorded sometimes for political or personal motives, would no longer be obtruded as a letter of recommendation. Edinburgh has no Court, yet in literary eminence it surpasses Dublin, while its social circles have long enjoyed a high tone. Such an example should give courage to some rational men of Dublin to resist the cry of despair at the threatened departure of the Viceroy. When JAMES I. threatened to remove the Court from London, the citizens humbly requested him not to remove the river Thames. Have the Dublin folk no irremovable natural advantages to counterbalance the possible waning of the full-moon of Lord CARLISLE's genial face, or the absence of some Tory peer set over them because he has engaging manners, or 'chivalrous' antecedents, or abilities of a singularly unadministrative order?

EXETER HALL AND CHESLYN HALL.

If we attempt to explain the hidden causes of all the disgraceful cases of commercial and professional delinquency with which the town pretends to have been shocked for the last few years, from STRAHAN and PAUL down to the Brothers HENRY and CHESLYN HALL, we shall find nothing but this one obvious solution—the passion on all sides for external appearances. The appearances may vary according to the tastes, habits, education, and environments of the different men, but the motive is in all cases the same. In the person of Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL the appearances took the form of intense respectability—ostentatious piety—regard for the heathen of all denominations, first stones of chapels, and white neckcloths of snowy purity shining from the interior of the glowing family chariot. Sir JOHN lived up to the standard of his neighbours, for to have done less would have been mean, stingy, poor, shabby-genteel; and to have done more would have been brilliant, but unwarrantably extravagant. Not wishing to be considered a 'merchant prince' on the one hand, or an 'old hunk' on the other, Sir JOHN very properly, as long as he was able, maintained his position in society. It was this 'position in society' that was the predisposing cause, and the irritant of his troubles. If his standard of living had been pitched upon a lower scale—if he had walked about the streets of London under a decent umbrella—if he had removed to a suburban cottage and had turned his back upon dinner-parties—how long would a run upon the old bank in the Strand have been averted?

Why is our City embellished with gigantic, insolvent, palatial warehouses and banks, but because traders on the one hand, and depositors on the other, always did and always will judge by appearances? Let the private banker adopt cabs, and a shabby coat—let the joint-stock bank resign its Corinthian portico, designed by the first architect in his profession, and its Babylonian staircase, built by the first contractors in England, and show the result at the end of a year in diminished capital and withered profits.

The case of the brothers HENRY and CHESLYN HALL, which is still in the Bankruptcy Court awaiting the decision of Mr. Commissioner FANE, is a notable example of this doctrine of appearances. Whatever these men may have been in their professional capacity as solicitors and money scribblers, one thing is certain, that they would never have attracted the capital, and commanded the confidence of the persons whom they have so grossly defrauded, if they had confined their operations to the dingy precincts of a lawyer's office. It was as the frank, open country gentlemen, the hard riders, the straightforward fox-hunters that they won the ear of at least the most influential of their unfortunate clients. Without this real, or assumed character, it is more than probable that these men would never have had an opportunity of operating upon Sir CHARLES RUSHOURT. In the melancholy instance of Mrs. DALGLISH, whose 2000*l.* consols were quickly transformed under the hands of the unscrupulous brothers to a stable at Neasdon of the more than doubtful estimated value of 150*l.*, this ill-used lady admitted herself that she would not have trusted them to the extent that she did, but for her knowledge of the fact that they kept a carriage. Here we observe again the influence of appearances, and the well-calculated operation of the all-powerful 'carriage.' Any poor, plodding, honest professional man, who defrauds nobody, and yet with difficulty is enabled to pay his way, may languish long enough for the patronage of rich and powerful clients, because he cannot back his talent and principle with the external gewgaw of a carriage. Far be it from us to say anything that may seem to prejudice the very proper sympathy felt, and the subscription started for this unfortunate Mrs. DALGLISH, but we trust that the severe lesson which she has just learned will shake her belief to the last day of her life in the necessary connexion between 'carriages' and true respectability.

With regard to the town life of these interesting brothers, it seems, from all accounts, to have been what is called 'gay.' Their ambition did not run in the same channel as that of Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL. While he was adorning a chair at a religious meeting, these kindred spirits—kindred in the manner in which they accumulated funds—were dressing for the Wine Rooms, the Casino, or the more brilliant Bal Masqué. Wherever the shrill and hollow laugh of the half-dozen 'more unfortunate' was heard, mingled with the furious popping of champagne corks, and the measured provocations of the *Varsoivienne*, there were the liberal scribblers, the pride and envy of every humble BARNWELL in the place. Unsteady apprentices looked on with a longing eye, and sighed when they thought how much better in the race of dissipation it was to be a master than a servant. When Sir JOHN was hastening in his carriage to the familiar chapel that had grown up under his fostering hand, the wild, young, generous, sly scribblers were inside one of those snug, improper *Traviata* broughams that roll from St. John's Wood, in the cool of a summer's evening, towards the Trafalgar at Greenwich, or the Star and Garter at Richmond. Mrs. DALGLISH's little fortune was sacrificed, because the apartments at Brompton, and the detached cottage somewhere about Regent's Park, with their fair, but exacting occupants, had to be paid for, and the 'social evil' patronized with no niggardly hand.

Sir JOHN is herded with thieves and vagabonds because it was a necessity of his trading position that he should keep up appearances, and the nourishment of his existence that he should live in an atmosphere of deportment and respectability, surrounded by the substantial realities of this world, while professing thinking of the next. His lot fell in hard times, when vice, although rampant, was hidden, and exposures were young. His Judges thought that they had made an example of him that would deter others from following in his footsteps, as doctors sometimes hastily cut off a diseased limb to save a body, when the body is worse than the limb, only the latter is weak enough to be the first to show it. The brothers HALL, for the paltry satisfaction of standing well in the county, and the more

paltry ambition of outwitting a few weak, idle clerks and shopmen in the markets of uneasy virtue, are now awaiting a tardy judgment at the hands of a Bankruptcy Commissioner, which, if there is any even-handed justice in the land, will be at least as severe as that which has fallen upon the fraudulent bankers whose ill fate it was to go before them.

LORD MALMESBURY AN EXTRADITIONIST.

LORD PALMERSTON has been driven out of office on a question of national honour. Lord DERBY has been lifted into office upon that same question. But his appointment of Lord MALMESBURY to the Foreign Office is peculiar, as an illustration of the principle upon which 'national honour' is to be vindicated. We have no desire to prejudice the diplomacy of this nobleman, or to condemn him for the sake of a foregone conclusion; but the facts of his biography must be remembered. In 1852 he was made Foreign Secretary by Lord DERBY, and the *Patrie* rejoiced that the most intimate friend of LOUIS NAPOLEON at Ham had been chosen to represent the foreign policy of Great Britain. In that year, moreover, he introduced a Surrender of Criminals Bill, which, after much opposition, was withdrawn. His language upon that occasion was reported as 'courteous and supplicatory'; but Lord ABERDEEN condemned the measure as one 'which required nothing but the French Letter of Accusation to warrant the apprehension of the alleged criminal.' Lord BROUGHAM urged 'how very little security there would be under this bill for the safety of political offenders.' Lord CAMPBELL declared that 'if this bill passed, the result would be that we should be bound to deliver up to the French Government any Frenchman in our dominions whose presence was wanted in France by that Government for any purpose whatever.' The Earl of MALMESBURY replied, in defence of his bill, 'with artful simplicity,' and the measure was read a second time; but the Cabinet was ultimately forced to abandon it, although a Convention embodying its provisions was actually signed at London on the 29th of May, 1852, by Lord MALMESBURY and Count WALEWSKI on behalf of their respective Governments. Without wishing prematurely to discredit the new Foreign Minister or his colleagues, we must be allowed to doubt whether the 'national honour' question has been settled by the transfer of the seals of the Foreign Office from Lord CLARENDON to *mon cher* MALMESBURY.

THE HAVELOCK MEMORIAL.

THE HAVELOCK Memorial Committee have appealed to that which is, we think, one of the sentiments most deeply rooted in the British character—the admiration of pure patriotic devotion. Having obtained from the late Government a site in Trafalgar-square, they propose to erect their monument near to that of Sir CHARLES JAMES NAPIER, the conqueror of Seinde. HAVELOCK's name is one which the world will not willingly let die, and this is the moment for testifying to his public services and personal worth. His countrymen will honour themselves in honouring the memory of this good and gallant soldier, who saved the garrison of Lucknow, and perished before the proud acclamations of the British people reached him on the battle-field.

MR. COBDEN.

We have heard with deep and sincere regret that there is no probability of Mr. COBDEN's accepting a seat in Parliament for a long time to come. Domestic afflictions, one upon another, conspire to prevent him from taking any active part in public business. In the existing state of the Liberal party in the House, so confused and incoherent in its principles and its personal followings, the presence and authority of Mr. BRIGGS's traditional compeer would be felt as an earnest of a policy, and a pledge of independence and advance.

THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—A report has been issued by the General Committee of the Indian Relief Fund, in which we read:—"The United Kingdom has already contributed 322,682*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* The English colonies have not all had sufficient time to respond to the appeal; but a sum of 2605*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* has been received from them. In the North American colonies, lists have been opened and liberally sustained, while we are informed that from all or most of them legislative grants may be expected. Foreign States (following the generous ex-

ample of the Emperor of the French and Imperial Guard) have contributed 15,187*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* The actual contributions from all sources up to this date have been 342,929*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* The cities of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, Cork, Manchester, and Liverpool have acted separately in the realization of funds; Edinburgh has contributed its earliest collections, while the other Scotch cities, with the exception of Glasgow, have transmitted their contributions. Manchester and Liverpool still retain the control of their contributions; but the Irish cities have consented to co-operate with the committee, and have remitted the amounts of their several funds. In addition to pecuniary contributions, generous offers have been made to maintain and educate gratuitously orphan children, male and female, of which the committee has already partially availed itself. Offers have been received to maintain without cost fifteen boys and five girls; and numerous applications have been made to receive children of both sexes on moderate terms, of which advantage will be taken as opportunities occur."

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.—A report was presented to a Court of Common Council, held on Tuesday, from the Improvement Committee, with respect to the bill for the abandonment of the Metropolitan Railway, and for the dissolution of the company. The report recommends that a petition be presented by the court against the bill. The court adopted the report, and agreed to a petition. It also unanimously adopted a report from the Improvement Committee, recommending that a petition should be agreed to in opposition to the Omnibus Tramway Bill, on the ground that it would be unjust and impolitic to allow any company to appropriate any part of the public streets for their own advantage.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH.—Mr. Daw, the chief clerk of the City Commission of Sewers, read a report, at a meeting on Tuesday, from the General Purposes Committee, to whom it had been referred to consider the Hampstead Heath Park Bill now before Parliament. The report stated that the committee were of opinion that the bill is objectionable in many of its provisions, especially as it would entail on the inhabitants of the City, in common with those of other parts of the metropolis, a considerable charge. The report (which was received) recommended the court to petition the House of Commons against the bill.

LAW AMENDMENT SOCIETY.—A general meeting of this society was held on Monday evening—Lord Brougham in the chair. The Secretary read the report of the committee on the Law of Legitimacy, which stated that the law at present is so deficient as to prevent any person from establishing before a court of justice his status of legitimacy, unless some question of property be concerned. The report suggested that the law of England in this respect should be assimilated to that of Scotland. The document having been adopted, a paper was read by Mr. Harris on the appointment of auditors to trust estates, and ordered to be printed.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—A Parliamentary paper has just been issued, containing some correspondence between Sir Charles Barry and the Board of Works relative to the expenditure by the former, as architect, on the New Palace at Westminster. Sir Charles has been directed to give no further orders for any work in the palace the cost of which cannot be defrayed out of the balance of the vote for the current year. The architect appears to have exceeded, to a considerable amount, his estimates for sundry expenses in connexion with the Houses of Parliament, and to have entered into special contracts for works without the sanction or knowledge of Sir Benjamin Hall, and contrary to his express desire.

EARLY SOWING IN SCOTLAND.—The season still continues so fine in the north of Scotland, that the sowing of the more early cereals has commenced on Deeside. There has been only one snowstorm in Scotland this winter, and that lasted but a few days.

THE CLERGYMAN & THE PHYSICIAN.—Mr. Farnell, Assistant Inspector of the Poor-Law Board, attended a special meeting of the Greenwich Board of Guardians, last Saturday, in order to investigate a complaint made by the Rev. John Polimore Courtenay, curate of St. John's Deptford, to the effect that, whilst engaged in professionally visiting the sick poor, he had been grossly insulted by Dr. J. Arthur, medical officer for Deptford district, who had threatened to expel him from the rooms of various pauper patients. The doctor, it appears, asserts that the gloomy appearance and 'apocryphal notes' of the clergymen—more especially of Puseyite clergymen—induce the patients to think themselves booked for the next world, and so exercise a prejudicial effect on their health. The whole case will be referred to the Poor Law Board.

THE GAME LAWS AND POOR RELIEF.—It appears that, in the year 1856, 285 women and 780 children were thrown upon the poor-rates in England and Wales, at a total cost of 705*l.* for their support in and out of doors, in consequence of the persons by whom they were usually maintained being immured in gaols for offences against the game laws. This appears from a return moved for by Mr. Colville, M.P.

DISTRESS IN SPITALFIELDS.—Mr. H. R. Williams, Hon. Sec. to the King Edward Ragged School of Industry, Albert-street, Spitalfields, has written to the *Times* to call attention to the distressed condition of the poor in that neighbourhood.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

Two works have recently appeared which tend to show that the revived study of philosophy at Oxford is likely to produce substantial fruit. The first of these—SIR ALEXANDER GRANT'S *Essays on the Ethics of Aristotle*—is a decided advance on the meagre elucidations hitherto given by Oxford scholars of their favourite text-book. Even at Oxford it has been too much the fashion to study the Nicomachean Ethics as Greek rather than philosophy, and for fifty years past no progress has been made in the critical interpretation of its difficult passages, or the philosophic discussion of its higher problems. Sir ALEXANDER GRANT treats the ethical system of ARISTOTLE in a manner worthy of the subject and of the University, his essays, six in number, being evidently the result of zealous labour, varied scholarship, and independent thought. The subjects discussed are the genuineness of the Ethics, the position of ethical science in Greece previous to ARISTOTLE, the relation of ARISTOTLE to PLATO, the special method and ideas of the Ethics, and the relation of ARISTOTLE'S speculations to modern systems. The most interesting of the essays are the second and last, which connect the work of ARISTOTLE with the entire history of ethical philosophy, showing what moral ideas he inherited from his predecessors, and the position in which his treatise stands to the peculiar doctrines of modern thinkers. The work is a really useful one to all students of philosophy, but especially to Oxford men, being an excellent introduction, not only to the Nicomachean Ethics, but to the ethical systems of antiquity as a whole.

The second work is the elaborate article, *Metaphysics*, recently contributed by the Rev. H. L. MANSEL to the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. This is a complete, and in many respects original, treatise, discussing in order the various points and problems of mental science under two main divisions—Psychology and Ontology—the former being, in Mr. MANSEL'S view, the science of phenomena, the latter of reality. In the psychological part of the essay, the author turns to good account the most recent contributions to the subject, with the whole range of which, both in this country and on the Continent, he is evidently familiar. It is in the ontological part of his work that Mr. MANSEL'S originality is most apparent. Starting from consciousness as a basis, he attempts to establish a science of reality in three main directions—those of man, nature, and God—but, in his own view even, is fully successful in one alone, that of man. He maintains that we have a direct and absolute knowledge of ourselves, consciousness being not simply a manifestation of personality, but personality itself. "I exist as a person," says Mr. MANSEL, "only as I am conscious of myself, and I am conscious of myself only as I exist. The consciousness of personality is thus an ontology of the highest sense of the term, and cannot be regarded as the representation of any ulterior reality." But is there as matter of fact any such direct consciousness of pure being, of abstract personality as Mr. MANSEL assumes? The condition of consciousness is difference, division, while being is necessarily one. We cannot be directly conscious of ourselves apart from all states, but only of ourselves in some particular state. While admiring the acuteness of Mr. MANSEL'S discussions, we cannot, therefore, congratulate him on the success of his attempt to construct a science of being.

The vexed question of international copyright between this country and the United States seems at length in a fair way to be settled. The only wonder is, that the present piratical system has existed so long, the interests of authors on both sides of the Atlantic being alike concerned in its abolition. But family quarrels are notoriously the most inveterate, the most difficult to arrange, and to this it is probably to be attributed that, while we have had for years past an international copyright with the nations of the Continent, we have up to the present time come to no arrangement with our cousins in America. We hail with sincere pleasure the prospect of a speedy termination to such an injurious and disgraceful state of things held out in the following paragraph from the *American Publishers' Circular* :—

The subject of International Copyright is once more brought prominently before the public by two independent measures—a bill submitted by Mr. E. Joy Morris to the House, intended to secure a partial compensation to foreign authors, whose works may be reprinted in this country, and the draft of a treaty which Lord Napier is understood to have laid before General Cass, having the same object. It is highly probable that some action will be taken on one or both of these propositions.

We have never been able to see why our laws should protect the rights of a foreign inventor, yet ignore those of a foreign author. Was not Lord Byron as truly the creator of Childe Harold as James Watt was of the steam engine? And if to build a steam engine in this country after the model of Watt's was an infringement of the rights of said Watt, why was not an American reprint of Childe Harold an invasion of the rights of Lord Byron? We cannot guess.

One of the ablest arguments against international copyright asserts that such writers as Bulwer, Dickens, Thackeray, borrow their ideas from the great thinkers and philosophers of their own and former ages, and have no just property therein. This, if good at all, is good, not against international copyright, but in bar of the claim of certain persons to share its advantages. No matter how stringent the law, it is clear that a plea of Plagiarism, if made out, would constitute a valid defence. A thief cannot maintain an action for the recovery of property which he is known to have stolen, but of which a third party has taken possession. We have no manner of doubt that 'Oliver Twist' or 'Little Dorrit' is as truly and absolutely the production of Charles Dickens as the 'Wealth of Nations' was that of Adam Smith; but, if

the contrary were established, it would make nothing against the propriety and justice of international copyright.

Inventions are, to a considerable extent, products of their time. We cannot doubt that steamboats would have been constructed though neither Fitch nor Fulton had never been born, and that the electric telegraph would have flashed intelligence from country to country though there had never been a Morse, a Bain, nor a House. But could we have had Christabel without Coleridge, Sartor Resartus without Carlyle? Clearly not; and herein is the proof that the author's right is clearer and stronger than that of the inventor. The latter anticipates; the former creates.

M. ANTOINE ROCHE has recently published the first volume of a *Histoire des Principaux Ecrivains Français*, which though specially addressed to young ladies, as an educational work, will be read by cultivated readers with pleasure and profit. It is the cream of literary history, exhibiting the progress and perfection of French literature in the most eminent writers. After a very brief, but lucid, sketch of the origin and formation of the language during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, M. ROCHE passes all the great writers in review, from MAROT to BOILEAU, giving some illustrative extracts from each, and expressing in clear, elegant diction the opinions which, in France, may be said to have passed into laws. We have on more than one occasion noticed it as a remarkable peculiarity in revolutionary and free-spoken France, that no subject is so sacred there as an established reputation. A Frenchman will doubt of everything that can be expressed in a proposition, except the pre-eminence of France, and the qualities attributed to a French classic: to find a Frenchman who has any misgivings about France as 'the brain of the world,' is as impossible as to find one who thinks of CORNEILLE, LAFONTAINE, or BOSSUET with any independence of judgment. What has once been said and accepted respecting a classic, remains a tradition which no levity ventures to disturb. M. ROCHE is, in this respect, like all his distinguished countrymen, and his criticisms are interesting as expressing the general sentiment of Frenchmen, and therein, perhaps, even more useful to the audience he addresses than if they had been original. His volume is very pleasant reading, and will be very acceptable to a large class.

SHELLEY AND BYRON.

Shelley and his Writings. By Charles S. Middleton. 2 vols. (Newby).—It has been said that a certain downward road is paved with good intentions; and Mr. Middleton seems in these two volumes to have unwittingly laid a flagstone on his path to that literary Gehenna which boasts so large a population of unfortunate authors. Five years ago, he conceived the idea of devoting his leisure to writing a Life of Shelley; and the result is a work to which, indeed, we can give the praise that fairly belongs to a well-meant design, and to industry, but which is open to certain grave objections.

Properly to write the Life of a genius so exalted and so subtle as Shelley's, requires a profound critical insight and a knowledge of human nature not necessarily implied in any amount of mere admiration and reverence; and these qualities Mr. Middleton does not possess. The task, moreover, demands, in a biographer who writes so close to the poet's own time, when friends and near relations are still living, an exquisite delicacy of mind which shrinks, with instinctive perception of the limits of publicity and privacy, from touching on matters which are necessarily painful to those concerned, however honourable they may be to all parties, and which cannot be placed in their true light without a further violation of that fine sense of reserve which Mr. Middleton seems almost to have forgotten. In saying thus much, we do not mean to accuse him of a bad intention towards any one. He seems to be a person of amiable feelings, deeply sympathizing with Shelley, anxious to place him in the true light of his genius and his noble heart, and to show the meanness, spite, and vulgarity of his enemies. But, for want of that rare perception to which we have referred, he has violated sanctities which, in justice to him, we will hope he did not perceive as such; has published letters which his own judgment should have told him ought never to have been exposed to the vulgar curiosity and misapprehension of the crowd, to whom, indeed, they can be of no legitimate interest whatever; and has publicly related circumstances which he has no right to drag from out the circle of private confidence, even supposing them to be correct, which in many cases they are not.

It must be admitted that Mr. Middleton does not stand alone in this bad habit. If there be any palliation in community of error, the present biographer of Shelley may claim it. The lives of great men, written while those yet remain who are capable of being pained by injudicious statements, frequently show the same evidence of disregard of delicacy. Mr. Cottle, in his Life of Coleridge, published letters addressed to himself by his friend, in one of his sore extremities, soliciting the loan of a few kitchen utensils. He did not appear to understand that a sacred silence should be thrown around such facts; that their publication must have been painful to relations; and that the knowledge of them puts the prosperous and insolent of mankind in a position of apparent triumph over genius and misfortune. Of course, we do not intend to say that any such sordid details as these can be related of Shelley's friends, or of Shelley himself, who, though at one time straitened in his means, was never reduced to such extremities as poor Coleridge; nevertheless, Mr. Middleton is justly chargeable with not sufficiently respecting the privacy of those with whom Shelley was connected by friendship and affection. He has suffered himself to be led astray by a principle which he may have thought warranted by previous examples, but which is opposed to that tenderness for the feelings of others which is the finest characteristic of the true gentleman. He would be sorry, also, if he could know that he has placed in the light of mere receivers of benefits those who have bestowed in an equal degree, and that he has thus—not willingly, we are assured, but by virtue of a mistaken system—given purely sectional portraits, leading to misapprehension on the part of the reader. With respect to some persons, indeed, he appears to have most imperfect information, and has consequently gone astray.

We are sorry to be obliged to write thus severely of one who, we repeat, seems to desire to do well; but we should fail in what we conceive to be the duty of all reviewers if we did not endeavour to check that habit of indiscriminate relation which is really embittering the lives of men of genius with the fear that, after their death, the most sacred recesses of their domestic existence may be opened for the idle pleasure of the public. Unless the practice be put a stop to, those who are more highly gifted than their fellow men will be forced into a cold isolation and reserve which is utterly opposed to the warm and overflowing nature of genius. They will fear to allude in letters to their private affairs, or to those of their friends, lest the words written in confidence to-day are blurted out to the world, thirty years hence, by some heedless biographer who thinks that the public have a right of property in everything which concerns poets and novelists, statesmen and philosophers. Mr. Middleton, as we have said already, is by no means the first sinner; we can only hope that he will be the last.

In other respects, too, these volumes are faulty. The literary criticism, for the most part, is unsatisfactory, being affirmative instead of demonstrative, and abounding in such expressions as—"The tragedy of the *Cenci* is full of beauty, and marks an epoch in the development of the genius of its author"—"the villainous character of Count Cenci is finely depicted in the opening scene"—"any praise that I might bestow on this must seem superfluous," &c. Mr. Middleton, moreover, is not always right in his facts. At p. 286 of Vol. I., he states that Shelley started in 1814 on a continental tour, "accompanied by Mary Godwin and another lady, a near relative of hers." She was no relative, unless the daughter of a father's second wife by a previous husband can be so termed. This young lady is called, at p. 317, Miss Clare Claremont: her name was Jane Claremont. At p. 345, Vol. II., Mr. Middleton asserts that "an amiable contest took place between Leigh Hunt and Mrs. Shelley" for the possession of the poet's heart after the body had been consumed by fire. He has, it is true, Lord Byron's authority for the assertion; but we have reason to believe that no such contest ever took place. It is, indeed, improbable that a person with a nature so finely tempered as Leigh Hunt's could dispute with a widow for the custody of her dead husband's heart. In the following page it is asserted that Leigh Hunt was so overcome at the cremation that he was unable "to go through the scene." This was not so, as may be learnt from Mr. Hunt's *Autobiography*, where it is stated:—"I remained inside the carriage, now looking on, now drawing back with feelings that were not to be witnessed." The Countess Guiccoli, Mr. Middleton calls "the Countess of Guiccoli"—which is assigning to her a rank she never possessed. He overstates the nature of the intercourse between Shelley and Keats. It is quite a mistake to say "that much of their time was spent together," and that their friendship was "dignified by a noble emulation in their art." Shelley, as all the world knows from the *Adonais*, had an exalted opinion of Keats's genius, and Keats must certainly have perceived the marvellous character of Shelley's poetry; but, as Mr. Middleton afterwards states (very truly, but very inconsistently), Keats had a morbid fear that Shelley's superior rank would make him look down with coldness on the man of comparatively humble origin. It is also incorrect to say that Shelley wrote with rapidity. He corrected and elaborated his works with great care.

The volumes before us constitute an interesting narrative, industrious, anecdotal, and lively; but the Biography of Shelley has yet to be written. If we have spoken of the present author with apparent harshness, it is because we regret to find that his desire to perform his task effectively should have led him into errors both of taste and judgment.

Recollections of the Last Days of Shelley and Byron. By E. J. Trelawny. (Moxon).—Mr. Trelawny is a Cornish gentleman who became acquainted with Shelley and Byron in Italy, about a year before the death of the former, and some three years before that of the latter. He is already known to the public as the author of a clever novel called *The Adventures of a Younger Son*; but it must be confessed that the volume before us is rather the production of a dashing, high-spirited gentleman, written in a style of characteristic freedom, picturesqueness, and sincerity, than the work of an artist, accustomed to literary expression. This, indeed, is admitted by Mr. Trelawny himself in his Preface; and, after all, a book of personal recollections is the better for being composed in the gossiping manner adopted in extempore narration. Mr. Trelawny has led a wild, fire-eating, salt-sea-roving kind of life; and we are pleased to find his book partaking of the character of his adventures.

It was at the Tre Palazzi, on the Lung'Arno, at Pisa, that Mr. Trelawny first saw Shelley. There is a sad confusion of dates in the present volume; but it is certain that Mr. Trelawny's introduction to the poet was not many months previous to his death. As an instance of this confusion, we may note that Mr. Trelawny speaks of Mrs. Shelley as having been born in 1797, adding—"so that, at the time I am speaking of [the period of his introduction to the poet], Mrs. Shelley was twenty-seven." According to this, the year in question must have been 1824; but we all know that Shelley was drowned in 1822. This, however, in a book of reminiscences, is but a superficial blemish; and so we pass to more important matters.

On first visiting the dwelling of the poet, Mr. Trelawny was received by Mrs. Williams, the wife of the gentleman who was drowned with Shelley. It was dusk, and, looking through the open door of the room, the visitor saw a pair of glittering eyes steadily fixed on his own. Going to the door, Mrs. Williams said, laughingly, "Come in, Shelley; its only our friend Tre just arrived." Instantly afterwards, the poet glided in, "blushing like a girl," and holding out both his hands. He had the appearance of a tall, thin stripling, and "was habited like a boy in a black jacket and trousers, which he seemed to have outgrown." He had a book with him, and Mrs. Williams asked what it was. He answered quickly, and with a brightening face, "Calderon's *Magico Prodigioso*; I am translating some passages in it." Being asked to read a few of them, he, instead of doing so, made an extempore rendering of various parts, turning the one language into the other with marvellous ease and rapidity, analyzing the genius of the author with subtle power, and interpreting those portions of the story which he did

not read. Abruptly ceasing, he suddenly vanished; for Mr. Trelawny, looking up from the rapt abstraction into which he had been thrown, found that the enchanter was no longer in his presence. "Where is he?" he asked. Mrs. Williams rejoined, "Who? Shelley? Oh, he comes and goes like a spirit, no one knows when or where." Presently, he returned with his wife, who asked eagerly for the last fashionable news from London and Paris. Mrs. Shelley, indeed, though a woman of faculty, and of a sensitive nature, loved society as much as her husband abhorred it; and this diversity of taste was sometimes embarrassing to both. Shelley, as Mr. Trelawny relates, said one day, with a rueful expression of face, "Mary" (his wife) "has threatened me." He was asked, in some surprise, "With what?" "Mary says she will have a party," he replied. "Oh, the horror! It will kill me!" Mr. Williams undertook to obtain, if possible, a reversal of this sentence; but he could only procure a commutation. The party was simply to include old friends, instead of strangers, as first of all proposed. One morning, Mr. Trelawny discovered the poet in a dreamy trance beside a dark pool of water in the heart of a black pine forest. He was told that his wife had been looking about for him disconsolately, unable to bear her solitude any longer. On this, he hastily snatched up his books and papers, and departed, exclaiming, with a sigh, "Poor Mary! hers is a sad fate. She can't bear solitude, nor I society—the quick coupled with the dead!" They soon met with the lady, "her clear grey eyes and thoughtful brow expressing the love she could not speak. To stop Shelley's self-reproaches, or to hide her own emotions, she began, in a bantering tone, chiding and coaxing him."

For some few months, Mr. Trelawny was in constant intercourse with Shelley, and he has given a delightful picture of the poet's character and habits—his sweet, self-sacrificing disposition, his purity, his tendency to believe in whatever is exalted and ennobling, his devotion to study, his wild outbursts of spirits, alternating with deep despondency, his shyness with strangers, his childlike contentment with simple pleasures, his light, seraphic movements and inspired face, and his passionate love of the water, and the trees, and the flowers, and the mountains, and the glorious shows and changes of the elements in the bright country of his adoption. The building of the boat Don Juan ('that fatal and perfidious bark' in which, like another Lycidas, he perished) was a source of keen delight to him; but unfortunately, the vessel was constructed on a model which Mr. Williams had taken a fancy to, but of which better judges did not think so highly. Some English sailors who went out in her for a trial reported 'that she was a ticklish boat to manage;' perhaps, had she been less so, Shelley might still have been alive.

The account given by Mr. Trelawny of the dreadful event which robbed the world of so great a brain and heart is extremely interesting, and furnishes some new details. The bodies had been temporarily buried in the sand; but they were dug out, and were found in a dreadfully mangled condition. The flesh hung in tatters, and the bones were loose. It was a wild, lonely spot, backed by the Apennines; a hot sun glared down through a windless atmosphere on the corpses and the mourners, on the salt foam and the arid sands; and at a little distance a crowd of spectators had gathered, including many richly-dressed ladies. Lime had been thrown on the bodies, staining them "of a dark and ghastly indigo colour." Frankincense, salt, wine, and oil, were thrown on the funeral pyre, and the yellow flames, says Mr. Trelawny, glistened and quivered, while the heat from the sun and fire made the atmosphere tremulous and wavy. The corpse of Shelley fell open, and the heart (which, strange to say, was not consumed) was laid bare. The frontal bone of the skull fell off, and the brains boiled and bubbled for a long time. At this, Byron was so overcome with horror that he withdrew to the beach, and swam off to the ship *Bolivar*. Some time before, he had exhibited not a little of his scoffing and sardonic mood; but he seemed to feel the loss of his friend, nevertheless.

Of Byron, Mr. Trelawny does not give an agreeable picture. He confirms the accounts of other writers, and shows that, though originally possessing some generosity of nature, he had been parched by disappointments into a cynic, and corrupted by town life into a kind of intellectual Prince Regent. His temper was irritable and sullen; he would often say cruel things to people without provocation; he possessed a pitiable vanity on the score of his accomplishments as a swimmer, and exhibited a lamentable ultra-sensitiveness with respect to his lame feet. He threatened to haunt his man-servant Fletcher, after death, if anybody ever saw his lower extremities. Mr. Trelawny, however, when looking for the last time at the corpse of the poet, got Fletcher out of the room by a pretext, and uncovered the feet. Both were clubbed, and the legs were withered to the knee.

Leigh Hunt used to tell Byron that the most genial part of his nature always showed itself most when he was drunk—a remark, indeed, which is applicable to most men; but Byron appeared also to soften while at sea. When he and Trelawny were on their way to Greece, to aid the war of independence, the poet seemed in high spirits for the most part, and would answer, "Do as you like" to the questions that were put to him with respect to the working of the ship. On passing any serene nook on the coast of Sicily, he would exclaim, "There I could be happy;" and, as they sighted the Morea, he said to his friend, alluding to his visit to Greece in early life—a brief period when he had been very joyous—"I don't know why it is, but I feel as if the eleven long years of bitterness I have passed through since I was here were taken off my shoulders, and I was scudding through the Greek Archipelago with old Bathurst in his frigate." During the period of Mr. Trelawny's acquaintanceship with him, Byron was by no means intemperate in his habits. On the contrary, he drank scarcely anything, never smoked, and, out of a fear of getting fat, almost starved himself. But he still retained his custom of sitting up to a late hour at night, writing, and of keeping in bed till about noon on the following day.

Mr. Trelawny gives an interesting narrative of the part he himself took in the Greek struggle for liberty, and of his romantic adventures in the high, fortified cave of the chieftain Odysseus. The Greeks appear, with a few exceptions, to have been a set of thieving, lying, rapacious, treacherous, bigoted, and mutually distrustful fellows, engaged in constant conspiracies

against one another, and dashing the enthusiasm of those who had risked all for their sakes. But two of our own countrymen were no better. These persons, being shut up with Mr. Trelawny in the cave of Odysseus during the absence of the chief, made an attempt on the Cornish hero's life. He was shot in the back, and seriously wounded. The one who fired the pistol was almost immediately afterwards killed; and the other—who seems to have been a weak-minded and half unwilling accomplice—was magnanimously forgiven and set at large by Mr. Trelawny, though the retainers desired to roast him alive by a slow fire. For the incidents of this story we must refer the reader to the book itself. They are almost melodramatic in their wild picturesqueness.

The friend of Byron and Shelley has produced a very amusing volume of recollections; and his work will add to the stock of our knowledge of a most interesting period and a most remarkable set of men.

We look forward with interest to the forthcoming volumes by Mr. Hogg, to which we alluded last week. They are being written with the sanction, and we believe almost the co-operation, of Shelley's son, the present baronet; and will doubtless contain letters throwing still further light on the character and opinions of the poet.

WESTERN AFRICA.

Impressions of Western Africa. With Remarks on the Diseases of the Climate, and a Report on the Peculiarities of the Trade up the Rivers in the Bight of Biafra. By Thomas J. Hutchinson. Longman and Co.

READERS of Dr. Livingstone's narrative should take in hand this valuable book, by Mr. Hutchinson, British Consul for the Bight of Biafra and the Island of Fernando Po. Mr. Hutchinson has resided eight years on the West African coast, in a medical as well as in an official capacity, living at Old Kalabar, accompanying the last Government expedition up the Niger, studying the climate of Sierra Leone and the Kru coast, and adding some singular corroboratives of the statements brought home by Barth and Livingstone as to the power of the native races to work out the industrial development of the interior and of the maritime territories. He rests his confidence in the future less upon the ivory, gold-dust, and copper ore of the country, than upon the production by the people themselves of cotton, shea-butter, palm-oil, and other materials of inland, coast, and ocean trade. It will be remembered that Mr. Hutchinson has already published an interesting account of the Niger, Tshadda, and Binuë explorations; in this volume a few passages from the former work reappear, but the principal part is original. The author's consularship, enlarging his facilities for acquiring information, dates, indeed, since that period, and this volume is, in fact, a record of two years' additional experiences, including a voyage from Liverpool to Madeira and Santa Cruz in 1856. From Santa Cruz he proceeded to Senegal, not far from Goree, voyaging thence along the coast to Sierra Leone, Cape Coast Castle, and the most important towns and settlements in the Bight of Benin, Brass River, and the Old Kalabar River, thus glancing far into the interior, and remarking upon the habits, character, and capabilities of some of the most extraordinary nations of the globe. We have not met with a more suggestive view of the various theories entertained on the subject of malaria than that of Mr. Hutchinson, who contributes, moreover, some very explicit and practical advice to visitors and residents. Arriving at Sierra Leone, he remarks, full of the traditional idea of it as the white man's grave, its appearance at once dissipated this imaginary gloom. It was impossible to believe that perpetual fever lurked amid the varying tints of verdure upon and below the Lion Mountain. The health of Freetown is said, indeed, to have improved materially since the sowing of Bahama grass in the streets, between the carriage-way and the side-paths, rendering the walk delightfully cool and agreeable. From this place we receive much red pepper, arrowroot, teak wood, palm-oil, coffee, gum, and copal, with small quantities of ivory and gold. The colony produced five hundred tons of ginger in 1851; and in 1852 from eight to nine thousand pounds' weight of cotton were sent to England by the African Improvement Society.

At Cape Coast Castle Mr. Hutchinson gathered some fresh evidence with reference to the long-disputed question of Miss Landon's death, certain statements affecting Governor Maclean and the suicide of his wife having been carelessly revived by Dr. Madden, in his *Life of Lady Blessington*. Lady Blessington's letter on the subject is represented, Mr. Hutchinson says, by "an intimate acquaintance of L. E. L.'s," as "a tissue of errors from beginning to end." This gentleman—one of the principal merchants of Cape Coast—saw L. E. L. the night before her death, and was next morning requested by her, in a note, to come up and see Mr. Maclean, who was unwell; "on his way to the castle, about half an hour after receiving the note, he met a messenger, who informed him that she was no more." He had "passed many a pleasant evening with the former and Mrs. Maclean, and never saw or heard of any domestic unhappiness between them." This testimony must be taken, of course, for what it is worth, but Mr. Hutchinson's statement is at least interesting.

Passing from the Bonny to the Old Kalabar River, Mr. Hutchinson makes an observation illustrative of the state in which the geography of Western Africa still remains, notwithstanding the explorer's diligence and the map-maker's facility. "Of the next river, the Andony, nothing is yet known." Of the Kalabar itself, his description is almost the only one that is full or authentic. Up this stream, at Duketown, lived King Eyamba, in an iron house, consisting of two stories and an attic, manufactured in Liverpool, and erected upon mangrove posts about six feet high. Eyamba had insisted upon having an English carriage, but horses being unknown in his country, the people were compelled to coin a new appellation, and therefore styled them the white man's cows. With admirable consistency, the coach was next christened the white-man's cow-house. Eyamba, however, having procured a wheeled vehicle, could not find a road in his kingdom, and therefore, having levelled a space of a few yards, was accustomed to have the carriage drawn before him by a number of slaves, whilst he walked after it, with his shining brass crown upon his head, and an immense party-coloured parasol

held aloft by a strong-armed man. This monarch acquainted Mr. Hutchinson with his desire to see Wellington and Napoleon "that he might show his pre-eminence over them;" he was accustomed to sign himself "King of all Black Men." We have here a curious insight into indigenous African society.

With reference to the development of trade upon this coast, Mr. Hutchinson refers to a number of local authorities whose opinions converge, on the subject of cotton, in a statement which will interest the commercial community in England. For fostering the culture of cotton for export in Western Africa, the most effectual method would seem to be for merchants or others in Britain, and chiefly those in the manufacturing districts, to promote it by purchasing from the natives all the best cotton grown. In aid of this plan, during the commencement of the growth, the native cultivators should be supplied with a good kind of seed and a proper cleaning implement. These things would, however, be only auxiliaries. The chief consideration would remain in the purchase of the cotton at a fair price. In doing so it would probably be found essential to make long contracts; since the poverty of the natives would not permit them to sow a plant requiring a three years' culture without sufficient guarantee for a market during the whole period. This would apply more particularly were the produce (as in the case of the cotton-plant) unsuitable for home use. For the effectual promotion of its culture, then, the buyers would have to enter into contracts with the natives, agreeing to take from them all their superior cotton at a fixed and reasonable price for the term of three years. The testimony of what has taken place in another country suffices to show the value of the above suggestion with respect to the purchase of cotton in Western Africa. In British India, the Agri-Horticultural Society of Calcutta having continued during many years to distribute the best varieties of seed, but not having associated this with the purchase of the produce from the native cultivators, have failed in rendering the culture of any of those varieties take root in any part of India. Yet we see the native cotton-manufacturers in the extreme south of India, through buying the produce of a superior variety called the Bourbon cotton-plant—introduced into this country by the East India Company about the beginning of the present century—have succeeded in making its culture become rooted in their own neighbourhood, and in obtaining a supply of it from year to year.

There are strong reasons for believing, also, that if the British cotton-manufacturers would follow out this plan by the purchase at a fair price of the produce of the Bourbon plant, they might greatly extend the culture established by the native manufacturers; and as the growth of the Indian Bourbon plant is superior to that of the native Indian, or even to that of the Indian from New Orleans, there might thus be obtained the supply of an article peculiarly suitable to the general requirements of the British cotton-trade.

Readers interested in the actual condition, resources, social developments, and facilities for commerce of Africa, will find much in Mr. Hutchinson's volume which will inform them, and widen the prospect opened by the researches of Barth, Livingstone, and Richardson.

THE LETTERS OF A BETROTHED.

The Letters of a Betrothed.

Longman and Co.

A SWEET and touching narrative is contained in these letters—not a romance of stirring incidents, but a story of affection, growing, expanding, warming day by day, until Honoria, who first addresses "dear Mr. M—," concludes with—"And now, my love, I wind up, solemnly; for I feel that this letter ends a long and most trying, and in some things awful phase of our lives, and that in passing from it and standing on the threshold of a new existence, radiant with hope, yet still shaded with the risks and uncertainties of mortal existence, exuberance of expression is out of place." Originally, however, the correspondence is in its tone most quiet and demure, and "dear Mr. M—" is invited to join a picnic:—"My brother being obliged to go to town to-day on business, and your note requiring an immediate answer, he desires me to say we shall be delighted, &c. . . . He bids me ask if you will come in our boat? There is plenty of room; and, indeed, he thinks you will be very comfortable—more so than in the W.'s boat, as there are only he and I, besides the boatman." There is more than one genuine touch of truth and nature in this little epistle. Then followeth, upon the next day, a letter to "My dear Mr. M—," beginning—"Forgive me if I vexed you;" and thence the transition is startling—"and so you really love me?" From that moment "dear Mr." appears no more, and "Frank" is addressed, until his Christian name is sweetened into "*mie caro*," "my own," "my darling," "dearest," "my love," and "my blessing, my treasure." We have no doubt that the progression is philosophically indicated, but the following letter casts a doubt upon the reality of the correspondence; it describes a residence of the Betrothed in Paris:—

I saw a good many celebrities—chiefly political, and a few literary; also some foreigners of more or less distinction. There was there, with her mother, a remarkably interesting-looking girl, a Madrid beauty, Mlle. de M—; she is fair, with golden hair and dark eyes, and, though not to my taste, beautiful, has an air of distinction, coupled with a degree of melancholy in her expression, that irresistibly attracts your attention. There is something about her manner, too, that is peculiar and very difficult to describe; a sort of little quiet, half-indifferent, half-pensive air, as if she knew she were charming, but cared little about the matter—still less about making those about her think so. This struck me particularly, because it was so strongly opposed to the manners of the Frenchwomen round her. She has a charming bust and hands, but not sufficient length of leg for proportion.

This lady, of course, is the Empress Eugénie. The next, however, is more like the letter of a Betrothed:—

And so, most dear and most foolish, you think this new life will spoil me? for that is the sum and substance of your last letter, though otherwise expressed. How do you think it will spoil me? Will it make me love you less? Listen to me. The thought of you is with me night and day, waking and sleeping, in crowds and in solitude; everything is coloured, everything is influenced by it.

It is true I am sometimes amused, sometimes interested, by the things and the persons I see. Does the earth treasure less precious the diamond in her bosom,

because she allows grass and flowers to grow on her surface? I love you, my own. All that is strong, and deep, and earnest in my being clings to yours; it is twined with it, lives in it. All else is external, fleeting, evanescent; that alone, with the love of God, is a part—the best part of myself.

But we are led back to Paris salons:—

We dined to-day at Madame E. de G—n's, and met more wonderful people. First, there was Madame G. S—d. Cover her eyes, and nowhere and nohow else shall you find in her, in one interview at all events, any evidence of the genius—more especially the order of genius—that distinguishes her. She is short and stout, with a large face, the lower part of which is very coarse, and it is but the eyes that are handsome and expressive. I noted her hands, which are remarkably small, and, oddly enough, are only wanting in flesh to make them handsome. She speaks little, and what she says is much more characteristic of plain strong common sense than of fancy or brilliancy, and her manners are perfectly quiet and free from affectation—indeed from any peculiarity. A. Dumas was there; very amusing, but I should say capable of being extremely overpowering. He talks incessantly, very loud, and with frantic gesticulations; he knows and loves everybody, and seems utterly deficient in the tact that should teach him whom he may or may not be familiar and demonstrative with, or what subjects are permitted or inadmissible in general conversation. He is exactly like a huge, boisterous, good-humoured Newfoundland puppy, let into a drawing-room to display his intelligence and accomplishments; these, no doubt, are remarkable and highly amusing; but the result is, you feel that the witnessing the expenditure of this amount of animal life and superfluous energy produces a sensation of fatigue nearly as great as if you had been going through the exhibition yourself.

Finally, the marriage is to take place within twenty-four hours, and there is not a blush upon the candour of the lady:—

Child, I can neither rest nor sleep, nor eat! I cannot speak nor write coherently. I feel like one taken up to Heaven unexpectedly, and dazzled and overpowered with the sudden glory and happiness. This evening only—from what cause of delay I got not—your letter reached me; and as all attempts at sleep have proved vain, I got up with the first flush of the June sunrise to write to you. Is it possible, that, in another week, you will be no longer a recollection but a reality to me? that the spirit I feel hovering near me will become embodied, and that my senses, as well as my soul, will be cognisant of your presence?

This is a charming book, very original, very amusing.

THE STUDY OF LIVING LANGUAGES.

The Study of Living Languages. By Colonel A. Cotton. Scottish Press: Madras. This little book is a timely contribution to the requirements of the day, clearing off as it does sundry superfluous difficulties from the study of living Indian languages, pointing out the objects which should really form the student's aim, and indicating the means whereby they may be most effectually attained. The author starts from the principle that a thorough familiarity with the tongue as spoken is the real desideratum for an Indian interpreter, that philological refinements are a very secondary consideration, that even the faculty of reading is of minor importance as regards languages which possess no books that deserve to be read. He points out the error heretofore generally committed of studying the said languages on the classical system, and calls attention to the fact that the chief peculiarity of Oriental tongues, and their greatest difficulty, consists of their extremely idiomatic character, and the peculiarities of their pronunciation. He consequently lays it down as a rule, that such languages must be learned by the ear rather than by the eye, and by means of repeating over and over again after a moonshee—real, original native sentences, the meaning not the translation of which in English is to be impressed upon the memory. Colonel Cotton observes, that after deducting all technical, obsolete, and poetical terms, the actual number of words in common use among the natives is very small, so that a vocabulary of four thousand or five thousand words of all sorts would enable a man to make his way anywhere, and feel himself at his ease in conversing with the people, provided he could arrange them idiomatically and pronounce them aright. This can only be attained by practice with a native instructor; no book instruction can be more than a feeble auxiliary, and will often lead to false pronunciation, and to the habit of making use of English sentences in a native dress, which no native would understand. Books are in the first start even obstructive to progress.

The Colonel suggests, that in the first place a certain number of the very commonest words should be selected, and these combined in short sentences, illustrating the inflections of nouns and verbs, and more especially the peculiar formulæ of expression, which constitute the 'idiom' of the language. These words and their combinations having been once mastered, the pronunciation would most likely be correctly fixed, and, so to speak, the tongue of the student filed to the language he is to work upon; the idiom would also, to a great extent, have been conquered, and further progress greatly facilitated by such particulars of grammar as are invariable and indispensable, the inflections, for instance, of nouns and regular verbs, being impressed upon the mind by continual examples. Beyond this, the study of grammar is very little needed for a student who only aims at colloquial fluency. There are plenty of ladies, for instance, who speak most impeccable French or English, who would be horribly puzzled to parse a complicated sentence. Practice alone has made them perfect, and what practice does in one case, practice, says the Colonel, will do in another.

When the student has mastered his first batch of sentences, he will proceed to more words and longer sentences, until he has acquired all the phrases required for conversation; should he then choose to push his studies further, he will find his work the easier for having laid so good a foundation; while, if he chooses to content himself with the progress already made, he will, at least, be a fluent speaker and good practical interpreter, which very few of the college 'passed men' turn out to be.

This little book may prove of great assistance to the numerous officers of British regiments now proceeding to India; they must, however, understand that it does not profess to enable a man to be a linguist without trouble. It calls for at least as much industry as the old system required, but, by knocking off so much of the superfluous, which that old system involved, and limiting the objects of study to the really useful, it certainly will save a great deal of time, and the industry applied will not be wasted in making acquisitions which turn out to be of no practical use when acquired.

MR. GLEIG'S ESSAYS.

Essays, Biographical, Historical, and Miscellaneous. Contributed chiefly to the *Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews*. By the Rev. G. R. Gleig, M.A. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

MR. GLEIG'S Essays have at least the merit of variety. They range from the war in the Punjab to the struggles of the Puritans, from General Miller to natural theology, from military bridges to Dr. Chalmers, from military education to the wild traditions of Saxon Switzerland. In his dedication to Dr. Ferguson the author says: "You do not require to be told that they comprise but a fragmentary portion of the essays, good, bad, and indifferent, of which I might claim the authorship, for we are, I believe, the sole survivors of a little band who in youth and early manhood wrote perpetually." We do not find that the papers now collected call for any special criticism.

THE NATURAL SCIENCES.

A Cyclopædia of the Natural Sciences. By William Baird. M. D. Griffin and Co. This volume forms one of an important series issued by Messrs. Griffin, the publishers of the excellent *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*. It is the work of Dr. William Baird, of the British Museum, and is illustrated by a map, showing the distribution of animals over the globe, and by a variety of woodcut illustrations. Dr. Baird has not pretended to exhaust his subject, since, as he admits, the natural sciences embrace a multiplicity of objects so vast that the mere enumeration of them alphabetically would occupy his entire space. His design has been, therefore, to present a succinct account of the most interesting objects in the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, explaining the various terms used by authors in treating of them, and supplying, in fact, a manual for familiar reference. Keeping this plan in view, it was essential to condense the several articles, so far as was compatible with clearness, and a satisfactory statement of the particular science involved, and Dr. Baird has accomplished this with peculiar success. His book is in the form of an encyclopædia, and is, of course, in one sense, a compilation, but many parts are written with much freshness and ease. In construction, the work differs in some notable respects from most of its predecessors, containing a Dictionary of English terms referring to the scientific names as they occur. Some very curious and interesting papers are introduced, as Teratology, or the study of the abnormal forms of animals, or, as they are popularly called, monsters, a knowledge of those deviations from nature being, as Dr. Baird says, of great use in zoology. He has at present confined his illustrations in this department to zoology, since the application of them to botany would have necessitated an inconvenient increase in the size of the volume. Like all the manuals in the series, this Cyclopædia has been edited with the utmost care, and deserves to rank among standard works of reference.

GASTON BLIGH.

Gaston Bligh. By L. S. Lavenue, Author of 'Erlesmere.' 2 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

By those who read *Erlesmere* this new novel will be cordially welcomed. It possesses similar merits, with others which we did not notice in the author's first production. The story is related in the form of an autobiography, and, while the style is marked by frequent though slight affectations, a very few pages suffice to create an interest which never once abates. Some of the characters are drawn with great effect, Gaston's and Sylvia's especially, and the impress marked by early education is discriminatingly preserved without fatiguing moralizings. The romance is that of love, with a barrier against the happiness of the lovers, and the author's contrivance to avoid conventionality will please those to whom the circulating libraries have brought all but satiety. There is often, too, much descriptive power, quietly and gracefully developed, and the composition, although elaborately quaint, is of more than average merit. But that which is most to be admired is the warm and tender portraiture of a woman, Sylvia, the good and evil genius of Gaston Bligh. We have been interested in this novel, and believe that the writer is capable of advancing considerably further in his art.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

SOME important literary announcements have been made by Messrs. Longman and Co.—*A Narrative of the Siege of Lucknow*, by Mr. L. E. Lees, the first survivor who has reached England; a translation, edited by Mr. G. R. Gleig, of Brailmont's *Life of the Duke of Wellington*; the third volume of Huc's *Christianity in China, Tartary, and Thibet*; the fourth and fifth volumes of Dr. Barth's *African Travels*; the fourth and fifth volumes of the *New Edition of Bacon*, by Ellis, Spedding, and Heath; Mr. Hayward's *Biographical and Critical Essays*; the sixth volume of Merivale's *Roman History*; the fourth volume of Humboldt's *Cosmos*, translated under the superintendence of Major-General Sabine; and the last volume of Bunsen's great work on *Egypt's Place in Universal History*.

From Mr. Routledge we have the first volume of a new edition, to be completed in three volumes, of a work already popular, *The Rise of the Dutch Republic: a History*, by John Lothrop Motley, to be completed in three volumes. It is well printed, on good paper, and is a very acceptable republication.

Messrs. Saunders and Ottley have issued a second edition of *Year after Year: a Tale*, by the Author of 'Paul Ferroll,' and 'IX. Poems by V.'

We have from Mr. A. W. Bennett, successor to Messrs. W. and G. Cash, a second edition, revised and corrected, of *The Campaner Thal; or, Discourses on the Immortality of the Soul*, by Jean Paul Richter, translated from the German by Juliette Gowa.

Messrs. J. H. and J. Parker have published *Essays on Church Penitentiaries*, by John Armstrong, D.D., late Bishop of Grahamstown, edited by the Rev. T. T. Carter, Rector of Clewer, Berks. The Essays originally appeared between September, 1848, and March, 1849, 'in three of the leading reviews of the day.' The volume is interesting, historically, and from its earnest and intellectual discussion of the social questions indicated by the following titles: 'Female Penitents,' 'The Church and her Female Penitents,' and 'Female Immorality—its Causes and Remedies.'

The Arts.

LOUIS THE ELEVENTH.

HAD Mr. KEAN never played any character but *Louis XI.*, he must have taken rank as a dramatic artist of consummate skill. It is no exaggeration to say that his performance of this part is marvellous; as fine and subtle a personation as ever was achieved by the *Dii Majores* of the last century, whose painted semblances are preserved in their Walhalla, the Garrick Club. It has been said that at the commencement of the play Mr. KEAN shows a comic side of the *King's* character; from this we cannot but dissent. Fools will laugh at the distortions of a countenance or the sharpness of a voice, without reflecting whence these outward seemings arise, and a theatrical audience always numbers many fools; but a more critical intelligence perceives that, from first to last, the tenacious purpose of *Louis's* life never wavers; if he buffoons it is by accident, his preposterous gestures and shrill falsetto are not intended to amuse, they are merely the excess of simulation, the too redundant expression of the passions which ruled his every heart-beat. These passions, superstitious cowardice and cunning, deep and dark ambition, fear of death, greed, revenge, are all admirably seized, and fixed with the rapidity and sureness of sun-pictures, by Mr. KEAN, whose play of countenance alone is a study, and whose change of feature, manner, and tone of voice, from cajolery of *Marie de Comines* to malignant exultation when he hears that *Nemours* is in his grasp, is a prodigy of art, that haunts the memory by its intensity and its truth.

X.

MUSICAL NOTES.

THE second soirée of the Musical Union, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on Tuesday, was well attended. MOLIQUE was the First Violin on the occasion, and played with that profound feeling and fine expression for which he is justly celebrated; his daughter, Mademoiselle ANNA MOLIQUE, the pianist of the evening, proved herself not unworthy of her name. Talking of pianists, we

THE LEVIATHAN IN THE STEREOSCOPE.—We have received copies of six photographic views of the *Leviathan* as she appeared at Millwall during the process of the launch. Here we have her from every point of view—broadside on, partial side view, bow, and stern. We see the launching-cradles from the river-side at low-water, the paddle-wheels, the hydraulic rams, and all Mr. Brunel's complicated apparatus for setting the delicate monster afloat. Messrs. Robert Howlett and George Downes have succeeded in arresting and fixing on the plate, not only the general effect, but every minute detail of this great achievement of the nineteenth century. No artist, however skilful, unassisted by the sun and by science, could have faithfully and completely represented the characteristic wonders of this truly national undertaking, which, by the aid of the stereoscope, every one may now possess almost in its reality.

THE PROPERTY AND INCOME-TAX.—A public meeting was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Monday evening, for the purpose of considering the best means of obtaining a more equitable adjustment of the tax on trades and professions; Mr. Alderman WIRE in the chair. The following amendment was carried unanimously:—"That the present mode of charging one uniform rate on all classes of income, without reference to the source when those incomes are derived—whether permanent or precarious—is manifestly unjust, and tends to create a general and systematic evasion, and has been submitted to for the last sixteen years, under the repeated plea that the tax was only required for temporary purposes, and that this meeting is of opinion that in any future alteration of the existing law the charge on incomes derived from trade and professions (schedules D and E) should not exceed one-half the charge on funded and realized property." A petition to Parliament was also agreed to.

THE CAPTURE OF CANTON.—Mr. James Wyld, ever on the alert, has just published a sketch of the attack and bombardment of Canton, from the plan of the able special correspondent of the *Times*, taken on the morning after the commencement of the attack. The plan presents the positions of the allies ashore and afloat very clearly, and is almost indispensable to a correct understanding of the operations.

THE LIVERPOOL BOROUGH BANK.—A special meeting of the shareholders of this bank was held on Thursday afternoon at Liverpool. The report states that all parties are directing their best energies to the liquidation of the liabilities, and observes that the success of that liquidation must depend on the unanimity and cordial co-operation of all who are interested in the result.

POLITICAL MEETINGS.—Several meetings have been held during the week in various provincial towns in favour of Reform and condemnatory of the Conspiracy Bill.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CROPSEY.—On the 25th inst., at 2, Kensington-gate, Hyde Park, the wife of J. F. Cropsey, Esq.: a daughter.
RICHARDSON.—On the 25th inst., at Lynedoch-crescent, Glasgow, the wife of John Richardson, Esq.: a son.
THOMSON.—On the 24th inst., at 11, Dartmouth Villas, Forest-hill, the wife of William Thomson, Esq.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BRETT-STEPHENS.—At Halifax, Nova Scotia, Captain Wilford Brett, H.M.'s 76th Regiment, A.D.C. to his Excellency Sir J. G. Le Marchant, and fourth son of the late Rev. J. G. Brett, of Ranelagh, Chelsea, to Mary, third daughter of Thomas Stephens, Esq.

read with pleasure in the Paris correspondence of the *Daily News* the mention of a concert given at the *Salle Pleyel*, by Madame SZARVADY, who, as WILHELMINE CLAUS, fascinated and charmed all musical London some years ago. May we hope that she is coming back to her old admirers on this side of the narrow seas once more? We were announcing recently that the summer matinees of the Musical Union would be given in the new ST. JAMES'S HALL. We dare say many of our readers have very little idea where and what the ST. JAMES'S MUSIC HALL is. The local habitation extends from Regent-street to Piccadilly, and includes a room for concerts second only to EXETER HALL, and, we believe, capable of containing a larger audience in comfort. The new building includes a Restaurant,—but at present we are concerned with the Music Hall more particularly. The beauty of design and decoration will be all that the name of OWEN JONES may be thought to promise. We trust the acoustical properties of the hall may be found successful. On this point a feeling of doubt is unavoidable, since, up to the present day, the science of architecture, so far as the two somewhat important conditions of hearing and breathing are concerned, has been little better than guess-work. When a music hall or a theatre has been equally favourable to the music and to the audience, it has been a lucky hit, not at all a predetermined certainty.

The ST. JAMES'S HALL will be formally inaugurated by two grand evening performances on the 25th and 27th of March, under the immediate patronage of HER MAJESTY and the PRINCE CONSORT, in aid of the funds of one of the most deserving charitable institutions in the metropolis—the Middlesex Hospital. This Hospital has a peculiar and exclusive claim to public sympathy and support. Beyond the ordinary functions of an hospital it offers a home to the victims of the most terrible of all diseases—cancer. Dr. FELL's treatment of this incurable malady (incurable in the sense that the predisposition can never be extirpated) has been practised at the Middlesex Hospital with decisive effect. But to return to a pleasanter subject: the inauguration concerts are to be under the admirable directorship of Mr. BENEDICT, and the Vocal Association, which under his auspices won the cordial admiration of the celebrated Cologne Choral Union, will rally to the standard of their esteemed conductor in six subscription concerts to be given at intervals during the season.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	101	Portuguese 4 per Cents.....	—
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	804	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	311
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	106	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	311
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	74	Spanish.....	461
Dutch 24 per Cents.....	654	Spanish Committee-Cer- of Coup, not run.....	5
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif. 1044	—	Turkish 10 per Cent.....	100
Ecuador Bonds.....	141	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	104
Mexican Account.....	—	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.....	—
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	834		
Portuguese 3 per Cents.....	452		

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, February 26.

CONSOLS opened yesterday at a further improvement of 1 from the reaction of the early part of the week, and closed 97½ for March and 97¼ for the April account; but after business not so firmly as at the official close of the House. The bank cut broke up without any alteration in the rate of discount, but as a reduction was not generally considered probable this circumstance had no effect on prices. Foreign Stocks have been well supported, and Turkish Six per Cents have nearly recovered the figure they ruled at prior to the defeat of the government. The London Tramway Bill is threatened with considerable opposition. At a meeting of the North British Australasian Company a dividend of 4½ per cent was declared, free from income tax. The Caledonian Railway is still in the ascendant, and closes 48½.

This day the Stock Exchange has almost been entirely engaged with the settlement of the share account. Consols opened flat and closed about 96½ for March and 97¼ for April—the upward tendency being checked by the general feeling of uneasiness with regard to French affairs—that market in the Stock Exchange particularly sympathizing with the Bourse prices.

Blackburn, 94 10; Caledonian, 96½; 97; Chester and Holyhead, 37, 39; Eastern Counties, 91, 92; Great Northern, 104, 105; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 101, 105; Great Western, 102, 61½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 94, 94½; London and Blackwall, 64, 64; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 105, 109; London and North-Western, 99½, 99; London and South-Western, 95½, 96; Midland, 99, 99½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 96, 97; South-Eastern (Dover), 73, 74; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6, 6½; Dutch (Netherlands), 34, 34, dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 27½; Great Central of France, —; Great Luxembourg, 71, 84; Northern of France, 37½, 38½; Paris and Lyons, 33½, 33½; Royal Danish, 16, 18; Royal Swedish, 14; Sambre and Meuse, 8, 8½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, February 26.

DURING the week, there have been only a few arrivals off the coast; and there continues to be an indisposition to purchase much Wheat afloat, but of Maize there have been large sales made. Some of the country markets are rather lower for Wheat, while the French markets are slightly dearer. The only article on which there is any change in the value here is Barley, which has advanced a trifle.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	225	227	227	227	226	226
3 per Cent. Red.....	97	97½	97½	97½	97½	98
3 per Cent. Con. An. Consols for Account	96½	96½	96½	97	97	96½
New 3 per Cent. An. New 24 per Cents.....	96½	97	97½	97½	97½	97½
Long Ans. 1800.....	1-16	—	—	1-16	1-16	—
India Stock.....	222	222	222	222	222	222
Ditto Bonds, £1000	22 p	23 p	23 p	23 p	23 p	23 p
Ditto, under £1000	24 p	25 p	25 p	25 p	25 p	25 p
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	34 p	35 p	35 p	34 p	37 p	39 p
Ditto, £500.....	21 p	23 p	23 p	23 p	37 p	34 p
Ditto, Small.....	24 p	25 p	32 p	—	32 p	33 p

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 23.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ROBERT BUCKLEY, Royton, Lancashire, cottonspinner.

BANKRUPTS.—JOSEPH MOSES, Newnham-street, Teeter-ground, Goodman's-fields, manufacturer—WILLIAM BARDGETT and JOHN PHILARD, Mark-lane-chambers, Mark-lane and Old Cur-Exchange, Mark-lane, cornfactor—THOMAS STICKELMOORE, Maidstone, currier—THOMAS GARNER GABRIEL, Midford-place, and London-street, Tottenham-court-road, and Birmingham, brush board manufacturer—JOHN THOMAS, Strood, Kent, ironfounder—JOHN PAGE, Hythe, Kent, grocer—ADOLPHUS ACKERMAN, Beaconsfield-buildings, Strand, printer—CHARLES WHITE, Whitehall-place, Essex, poultryer—HENRY MARTIN RADFORD, Peckham-grove, Camberwell, oil refiner—HENRY JOHN CHITTY, Farnham, Surrey, linen-draper—SAMUEL BATES, Tipton, Staffordshire, mailster—JOHN BEDDOE, Westmore, timber merchant—JOHN BRUTON, Hereford, contractor—JOHN DULSTON, Wolverhampton, grocer—JOSEPH SMALLWOOD PARKES, Oldbury, Worcestershire, wine merchant—HENRY REDFERN, Nottingham, plumber—SAMUEL SHERRING and JAMES LITTLE, Bristol, printers—SAMUEL BRAIN, Bristol, timber merchant—THOMAS PETERS, Llabvabon and Cwmbach, Glamorganshire, grocer—WILLIAM LEE, Exeter, grocer—WILLIAM BARKER, Dunnington, Yorkshire, innkeeper—JOSEPH GALLOWAY, jun., Bradford, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer—CALEB GLEDHILL, Chesterfield, draper—ROBERT MITCHELL, Sheffield, edge tool manufacturer—GEORGE KIRLEY, St. Helen's, Lancashire, ironfounder—WILLIAM HENRY CHABRETT, Preston and Garstang, Lancashire, grocer—BENJAMIN HAMFROX, Manchester, stationer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—A. M'CALLUM, Cordebeath, grocer—W. L. MITCHELL, Glasgow, hosier—R. MORRISON, Glasgow, staymaker—J. K. KENT, Jedburgh, money scrivener—J. KNOX, Edinburgh, tea merchant—J. MUIR, Arbroath, flaxspinner—J. MITCHELL, Dundee, grocer—W. BROWN, Glasgow, slate merchant—D. M'CALL, Greenock, grocer—A. MORRISON, Edinburgh, smith—J. and A. FINDLAY, Aberdeen, watchmakers.

Friday, February 26.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—R. LEES, Oldham, cotton spinner—J. SMITH, Lowestoft, Suffolk, brickmaker.

BANKRUPTS.—GEORGE EVERETT LAST, Colchester, manure merchant—ROBERT MCKEAN, Mark-lane, ship broker—ARCHIBALD ARTHUR COOPER, Old Broad-street, commission merchant—GEORGE CHAS. THEODORE BAKER, Morterace, New Peckham, haberdasher—EDMUND VINCENT WALLIS, Hemel Hempstead, plumber—THOMAS YOUNG, Hampton-terrace, Hampstead, china dealer—WILLIAM HENRY OSBORN, Priests-street, Cavendish-square, jeweller—WILLIAM LEWIS, Tipton, licensed victualler—HENRY CRANE, Wolverhampton, iron founder—JOHN POWELL, Aston, Warwick,awl blade manufacturer—THOMAS OSBORN, Derby, grocer—JOHN GIBSON, Weymouth, coal merchant—JOHN DOMINY, Cerne Abbas, Dorset, mill-monger—THOMAS INGLEDEW and BERNARD INGLEDEW, Middlesbrough, York, coalfitters—WILLIAM NICHOLAS Wilden, York, worsted spinner—NATHANIEL HODSON, Sheffield, joiner—JOSEPH and JAMES WATERSTON, Newcastle-upon Tyne, smiths—ROBERT HENRY GILL, Harbottle, innkeeper—SAMUEL BUCKLEY, Ashton-under-Lyne, journeyman—ROBERT GORDON, Heaton Norris, ironfounder—HENRY WILKINSON, Newton-moor, Chester, card maker—THOMAS EDWARDS, Manchester, cabinet maker—YERNO HARDING, Liverpool, ironmonger—JOHN BEW, Manchester, druggist.

PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKELL.—
ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS at 3, and EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) at 8. Stalls, 5s.; Balcony Stalls, 4s.; Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Private Boxes, Two Guineas, One Guinea and a half, and One Guinea. Places to be secured at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MR. STEPHEN MASSETT, THE CELEBRATED American Vocalist, Composer, Imitator, and Musician, will make his first appearance in London on Monday Evening, March 8th, 1858, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, in his NEW and ORIGINAL ENTERTAINMENT, as given by him, with most marked success, in California, Australia, and the East Indies. Mr. Massett will, in the course of his Entertainment, relate a thrilling incident of the blowing away from the guns of two Mutinous Ships, as recently witnessed by him at Bombay; with other interesting details connected with the present Rebellion in India. Doors open at half-past Seven; to commence at eight o'clock precisely. Admission, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Stalls, 4s., which may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

DURING MARCH the SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM will be OPEN daily until 5 p.m. After 1st April until 6 p.m.
By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The Exhibition of Photographs is Now Open at the South Kensington Museum, every Day from Ten till Five. Admission, 1s.; and every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Evenings, from Seven till Ten. Admission, 6d. The Brompton and Putney Omnibuses pass every five minutes. Season Tickets, which are also available for the Soirees, can be obtained at the Museum, price 5s. each.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY OF SCIENCE, 3, Tichborne-street, Haymarket. Programme for February:—Lectures by Dr. KAHN, on "The Philosophy of Marriage," at 2 1/2 to 3 and 4 to 5 p.m., and by Dr. SEXTON, on "The Chemistry of Respiration," at 2 1/2 to 3; on "Skin Diseases," at 4; on "The Hair and Beard," at 5; and on "The Relations of Electricity," at 9. The Lectures illustrated with brilliant experiments. Dissolving Views upon a new principle, &c. Open for Gentlemen only from 12 till 6, and from 7 till 10. Admission, 1s. Illustrated Handbook, Sixpence. Programme Gratis. Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures and a Programme sent post free on the receipt of 12 Stamps.

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MR. HENRY N. BARNETT, of Bristol, having been elected to the Pulpit of this Chapel, will deliver the following course of Lectures.
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The following series of Discourses will be delivered at PINSBURY CHAPEL (South-place),
Commencing Sunday Morning, February 14, 1858.
Theism—the worship of Spirit.
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Supernaturalism—the worship of Miracle.
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Rationalism—the worship of Literature.
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The glory and the weakness of dogmatic Christianity.
The Church One and Universal.
Service will commence on each occasion at a Quarter-past Eleven o'clock.

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Extract from Report to the Annual Meeting, 29th February, 1885.—"The Directors are desirous of referring to a question which has recently attracted considerable attention, viz., the validity of a Policy, in the event of the death occurring after the premium has become due, but before the expiration of the days of grace allowed for its payment. They beg to inform all who are connected with this Society, that by the first of the conditions endorsed upon every Policy which has been issued from the office it is expressly provided that in the event in question the premium must be received and the sum assured become payable; and, further, that by a resolution of the Board of the Society, passed on the 10th day of January, 1885, it is allowed for the purpose, a Policy is held to be valid in the case referred to, the amount of the premium being deducted from the sum assured upon settlement of the claim."

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Abchurch-lane, on Wednesday, the 17th of February,

1858;

THOMAS DAKIN, Esq., in the chair;

The Chairman in the course of his address to the Meeting

drew the attention of the members to a recent decision in

the case of another insurance office, to the effect that, in the

event of the death of the assured within the thirty days of

grace allowed by the office, the premium being unpaid, the

policy becomes forfeited, and the Directors are not bound

to receive the premium, and stated that the policies of the

Mutual were so framed as to put it out of the power of the

Directors to raise such a question, and the Solicitor gave to

the Meeting a decided opinion to the same effect; neverthe-

less, in order to avoid the possibility of question, it was

moved and seconded, and resolved,—

That the following supplementary addition be made to

Law No. 1, section No. 2, in the Deed of Settlement of this

Society in explanation thereof:—

"And it is further provided that if any life assured in this

Society shall die after the date on which the premium on

the policy shall become payable, but within and before the

expiration of 30 days thereafter, and the premium shall be

paid within and before the expiration of the said thirty

days, then the amount of such policy shall be paid to the

policy entitled to receive it the same as if the premium had

been paid on the day specified in the policy for the payment

thereof, but this is not to limit the powers with respect to

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